■ Saturday Special / **A4-1**

Cesar Montano wants to revive Visayan film industry

■ Business / **B1**

Govt' scraps debt-equity swap with Maynilad

■ World / **A10**

US brands Darfur atrocities genocide

■ Metro / **A19**

Gas leak downs 26 Pasig studes

■ Across / **A15**

Balweg army distances self from assassins

Tanong ng Bayan / **A18**

Talamak na nakawan ng cellphone: Ano'ng solusyon?

Win the LAST 21" TV! Text 2910 now!

Palace appeals: Don't blame GMA for hard times

By Juliet Labog-Javellana and Carlito Pablo

DON'T blame President Macapagal-Arroyo for the hard times.

Malacañang aired this appeal yesterday as it insisted that the 14-percent drop in Ms Arroyo's performance rating was due to economic hardship—and not to any public per-

PALACE/ A18

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Gov't eyes OFW tax

By Michelle V. Remo

SAYING that difficult times call for everyone to share the fiscal burden, the Department of Finance is now considering taxing the country's modern-day heroes—Filipinos working abroad.

"They are Filipinos, therefore they have to help in efforts to ease the country's fiscal problem," Finance Secretary Juanita Ama-

GOV'T/ A8

email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph

Saturday, September 11, 2004 ★★ 64 pages / 7 sections / vol. 19 / no. 276 P18

website: www.inq7.net

JI admits Jakarta blast

Terrorist group says Australia was target

CAIRO, Egypt—A Southeast Asian Islamic militant group claimed responsibility for Thursday's deadly car bomb attack outside the Australian Embassy in Jakarta, saying it was aimed at punishing Australia for supporting the US-led war in Iraq.

An Internet site known for carrying extremist Islamic content carried a statement purportedly written by the Al-Qaida-linked Jemaah Islamiyah in East Asia, but its authenticity could not be immediately verified.

"We decided to call Australia to account, which we consider one of the worst enemies of God, and God's religion of Islam," the statement said. "Here we were able to call it to account today in Jakarta, where one of the *mujahedeen* (holy warriors) was able to execute a martyrdom operation with a car bomb in front of the embassy."

Indonesian police said that Jemaah Islamiyah was apparently behind the attack, and that it was likely the work of Malaysian Azahari Husin, a reputed JI member who had been on the run for three years. *(See story on Page A9.)*

The car bombing came ahead of next month's general elections in Australia, whose conservative prime minister, John Howard, has angered many in the region for running on a pro-American, anti-terror platform. The numbers of those killed and wounded have risen to nine and 173, respectively.

"We advise all Australians in Indonesia to leave, or we will make it a grave for them, God

JI ADMITS/ A9

SEPT. 11: THREE YEARS AFTER

SMOKE billows from the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center following the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks. Three years later, the images of that terrorist attack still linger.

REUTERS

'Something terrible happened here'

By Cookie Micaller

THEY OBLITERATED everything that was Cynthia Wilson that morning of September in New York three years ago.

Well, not everything—because her voice, trembling with fear as the horror unfolded before her eyes, lingers on, preserved in a Sony micro-cassette recorder which her 29-year-old daughter still keeps to this day.

"I'm in the office, something terrible happened here," the 53-year Ilongga cried into her daughter's answering machine moments after a commercial jetliner piloted by an Islamic hijacker plowed six floors above her into the World Trade Center building.

Wilson, a Filipina born in Iloilo who later became an American citizen after migrating to the United States, was one of the nearly 3,000 killed when two hijacked planes smashed into the Twin Towers of the WTC on Sept. 11, 2001 in the deadliest terrorist attack against the United States.

In that phone call, Wilson's voice, usually full of life and firm, was chill with terror.

"Take care of yourself and your brother," she

SOMETHING/ A18

CYNTHIA WILSON: "Take care of yourself and your brother."

Fallout of terror attacks still lingers

NEW YORK—The United States will pause Saturday in somber remembrance of the Sept. 11 terror attacks, whose legacy looms large and unshakable over a presidential election just 53 days away.

Three years later, some of the emotional wounds inflicted by the traumatic events of that day have begun to heal, even as the multiple fallout from the destruction of the World Trade Center continues to reverberate around a changed world.

For Americans, the third anniversary comes just days after the death toll of US soldiers in

FALLOUT/ A18

World watches in horror as terror unfolds in NY

INQUIRER

TERRORISTS HIT U.S.

World Trade Center destroyed; Pentagon damaged; Capitol, White House, state dep't evacuated

'It plowed right into the Pentagon'

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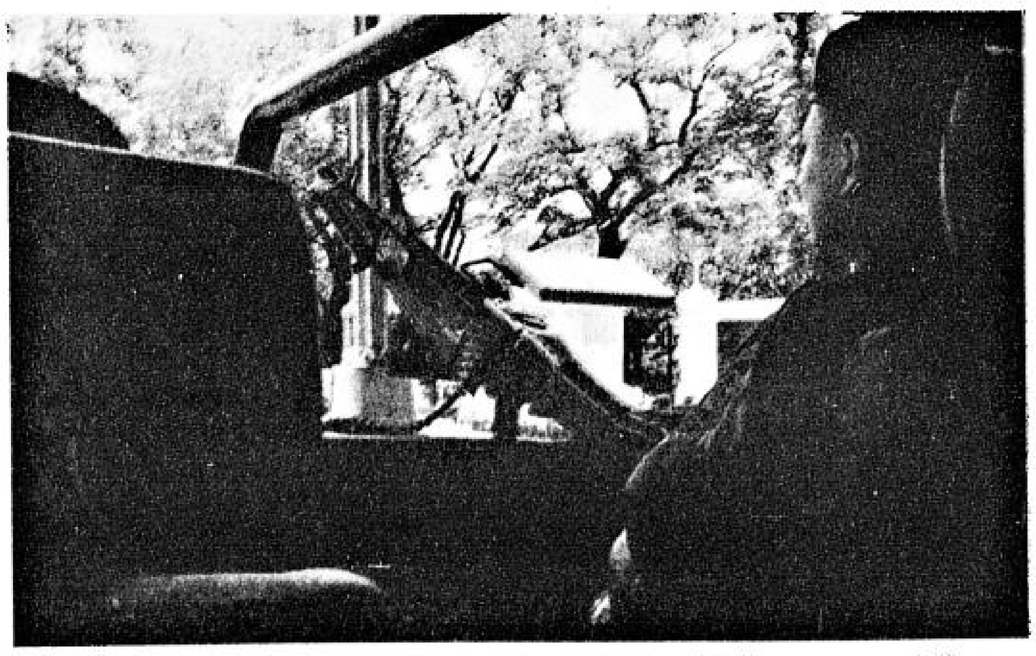
COA wants Pascual et al. to return P72M



TODAY, special action forces from the Philippine National Police are more vigilant than ever as they guard the US Embassy on Roxas Boulevard, a possible terrorist target. The INQUIRER's front page (left photo) on Sept. 12 tells of the early hours of the tragedy.

JESS YUSON

WALKING IN THE WINTER WONDERLAND

Separated twins to walk by Christmas

NEW YORK—Carl and Clarence Aguirre, the 2-year-old twins who were joined at the head until a month ago, should be walking by Christmas, their pediatrician said Thursday.

"That's the promise I made to their mother, and it's looking good," said Dr. Robert Marion at Montefiore Medical Center in the Bronx. "It could be Halloween, the way things are going."

Marion visited with the

SEPARATED/ A9

Wake-up call: We must do our homework with China

By Leticia Ramos Shahani

COMMENTARY

THE RECENT visit of President Macapagal-Arroyo dramatized our important relations with the People's Republic of China. A state visit is always gripping and dramatic because it compresses in a few days what would take a hardworking ambassador to accomplish in several years. We congratulate the President for pushing our relations with focus and aplomb.

But the euphoria of state visits must not make us forget that relations among nations are guided by permanent interests. Historically speaking, China has regarded the nations of Southeast Asia as client states. Although the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) has given the smaller countries more security, we must do our homework in approaching China since we are dealing with a giant.

The President declared that the Philippines would pursue "the development of all round, multi-dimensional and far-sighted relations with China." One of the five government-to-government agreements signed during the visit was a joint marine' seismic undertaking to study the area's petroleum potential. The official position is that the undertaking "does not undermine the basic positions of the Philippines and China on the South China Sea issue."

This sounds harmless but we should not forget that China bases its claim of the entire South China Sea Islands on historic title and effective occupation. Although relations with China are at an all-time high, we should not suffer from historic amnesia.

As undersecretary of foreign affairs, I accompanied in 1987

WAKE-UP CALL/ A8

Second FRONT PAGE

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WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Extreme Northern Luzon will experience mostly cloudy skies with rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to cloudy with isolated rainshowers and thunderstorms.

SOURCE: PAGASA

COMPILED BY: RAY LEYESA, PDI RESEARCH/09/11/04

Metro Manila	Partly Cloudy	Iloilo/Bacolod	Partly Cloudy
Baguio	Partly Cloudy	Roxas	Partly Cloudy
Tuguegarao	Cloudy with Rains	Cebu	Partly Cloudy
Laoag	Cloudy with Rains	Tacloban	Partly Cloudy
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	Gen. Santos	Partly Cloudy
Tagaytay	Partly Cloudy	Zamboanga	Partly Cloudy
Legazpi	Partly Cloudy	Cagayan de Oro	Partly Cloudy
Calapan	Partly Cloudy	Davao	Partly Cloudy

Embassies under heavy security

By Alcuin Papa and TJ Burgonio

THE MILITARY yesterday heightened security around several embassies and residences of ambassadors in Metro Manila to thwart possible terrorists attacks on the third anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks on the United States.

AFP National Capital Region Command chief Lt. Gen. Alberto Braganza told reporters that battle-tested Philippine Marines have been deployed to guard around eight embassies and three residences of ambassadors, mostly in Makati and Manila.

These include the US Embassy, the European Union Embassy, the German Embassy, embassies of Latin American countries, the Netherlands, the Japanese Embassy, the Spanish and the Saudi Arabian embassies.

Marine guards have bolstered security at the residences of the British, Canadian and Norwegian ambassadors.

A tight watch has been placed over the country's airports and harbors while police forces and local government officials in the metropolis have likewise been put on alert.

The heightened security measures followed the car bomb explosion outside the Australian Embassy in Jakarta on Thursday which killed 11 people and injured several hundreds. The al-Qaida-linked Jemaah Islamiyah terror group has claimed responsibility for Thursday's bombing.

The Australian Embassy in Makati City yesterday further tightened its security.

Australian Ambassador to the Philippines Ruth Pearce said that the embassy's security personnel were exercising "extra vigilance" in the wake of Thursday's attack.

"We accord the highest priority to security at the embassy and are continually reviewing and strengthening measures and procedures at our embassy here in Manila," Pearce said in a statement.

The US Embassy has also reviewed its security measures in the wake of the terror attack in Jakarta.

"We make upgrades as needed. We'll look at the security measures in light of the bombing in Indonesia," US Embassy Press Attache Karen Kelly said.

A Philippine Navy patrol boat with an elite Special Warfare Group unit onboard has been dispatched to guard the Manila Bay waters off the US embassy along Roxas Boulevard.

All Philippine embassies abroad were likewise ordered to maintain heightened security.

Aside from members of the diplomatic community, Braganza said security forces will also be deployed to at least 21 strategic locations in Metro Manila. These include shopping malls, oil depots, LRT and MRT stations, bus stations and commercial districts in the Ayala-Makati business district, the Ortigas-Pasig area and the Cubao area.

Government installations and offices will also be closely watched, including the Bureau of Immigration and the Department of Foreign Affairs, both in Manila.

Braganza said they have also strengthened security measures in ports and on commercial sea-faring vessels traveling to different ports in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao.

Security forces, Braganza said, which have been mobilized include the NCR Command, the PNP, the Coast Guard, K-9 units from bomb disposal units, elements from the 80th Infantry Battalion and the 5th Marine Battalion.

Braganza also said they are strengthening their forces manning checkpoints on roads coming in and out and within Metro Manila.

He added that the tight security measures would be enforced until this weekend. But he added that military and police officials will have to asses the "security environment" and "see how the situation develops." *With reports from Leila B. Salaverria, Edson C. Tandoc Jr. and AFP*

'27 medals' highlight Marcos' 87th birthday today

By Cristina Arzadon
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

LAOAG CITY—The Marcos family observes former strongman Ferdinand E. Marcos' 87th birthday today by highlighting his military career and war exploits.

"Regardless of the constant criticisms... he was a (soldier) who stood up for his country and in the process, got 27 medals. That's history. It cannot be changed, amended or erased in any manner," family spokesperson Lito Gorospe said.

Marcos critics have long maintained that the medals were for non-existent war exploits.

An exhibit of some 100 photographs of the late dictator, including his 27 medals, will be unveiled today at the Ilocos Norte Capitol lobby.

"The most decorated war hero of the US was war hero-turned-1960s Hollywood actor Audie Murphy. He received 27 medals, including the congressional medal of honor. Our Marcos got 27. He served his country and served it well. Let's not dwell on the fact that he was president. (He was also) an exemplary soldier of the country," Gorospe said.

This is also the first time that Marcos' widow Imelda Marcos has allowed the viewing of pictures of the late president as a soldier and commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

Gorospe noted that Marcos received the medal of valor—the highest medal the government can give to a soldier and equivalent to the United States' congressional medal of honor.

What continues to be a frozen issue is when Marcos would finally be buried.

The late strongman's remains are kept inside a refrigerated crypt in his hometown of Batac.

This year, only Mrs. Marcos will play host to the annual traditional program at the capitol grounds since the Marcos children are abroad.

Ilocos Norte Gov. Ferdinand Marcos Jr. and Rep. Imee Marcos reportedly accompanied their children for school enrollment in the US and UK, respectively, while Irene Marcos-Araneta had a speaking engagement abroad.

NEWSBRIEFS

Joker blames Camacho for power mess

MAVERICK Sen. Joker Arroyo yesterday urged Palace officials to stop speaking for the debt-ridden National Power Corp., and instead require past and present energy and finance officials to answer for the utility firm's mismanagement. Arroyo told reporters in the Senate that Malacañang had "this queer and unfortunate penchant of answering or commenting on any and all issues that arise which is not its concern."

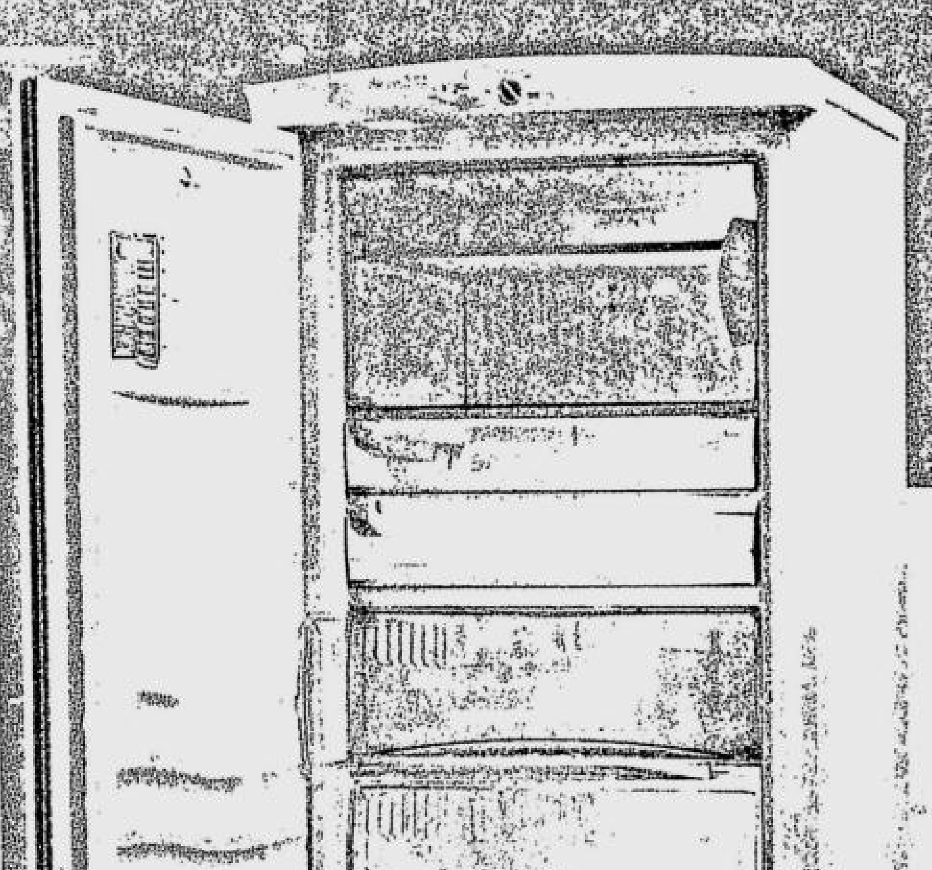
Arroyo said former Finance Secretary Isidro Camacho should be made to account for the financial mess at Napocor. He described Camacho as "an investment banker, good at borrowing, the golden boy of the President." The senator said that during the Senate hearing on the fiscal plan of the administration, the finance department admitted that 40 percent of the deficit problem had been caused by Napocor. ***Michael Lim Ubac***

Malaysian monitoring team here

A NINE-MAN security team from Malaysia arrived yesterday in Manila to monitor a ceasefire agreement between the government and the secessionist Moro Islamic Liberation Front in Mindanao. The Malaysian team is an advance party that would iron out administrative and logistic matters prior to the arrival of the main monitoring team in October, Brig Gen. Alexander Yano told reporters in Camp Aguinaldo yesterday. The plane carrying the Malaysian team arrived at the Ninoy Aquino International airport at around 2:20 p.m. from Kuala Lumpur. AFP Chief of Staff Narciso Abaya said the arrival of the Malaysian team "will enhance or bolster" the peace talks, the next round of which is to take place in Kuala Lumpur in October. ***Alcuin Papa***

Forfeiture cases vs Erap, kin OKd

THE OFFICE of the Ombudsman has ruled that the forfeiture case that a militant group filed against ousted President Joseph Estrada concerning the multibillion-peso "mansions" that he allegedly built during his aborted term was "sufficient in form and substance." Following the ruling, Ombudsman investigators have started a formal investigation into the allegation that the disgraced leader—who is technically in jail but actually enjoying rest house arrest in his Tanay vacation estate—had gone on a spree of constructing houses and rest houses while he was in power. The Ombudsman has asked the 67-year-old Estrada, his wife Sen. Luisa Ejercito, his son San Juan Mayor JV Ejercito, lawyer Edward Serapio and his mistress Laarni Enriquez to answer the charges. The Bagong Alyansang Makabayan filed the forfeiture case in February 2001 based on a report of the Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism. The PCIJ report claimed that during his incumbency, Estrada family members and cronies allegedly acquired 17 properties in Metro Manila, Baguio City and Tagaytay. According to PCIJ estimates, the fair market value of the 14 properties in Metro Manila alone exceeds P2 billion. Estrada is also reported to own two "log cabins" in the Tagaytay Highlands development worth about P250 million. ***Armand N. Nocum***



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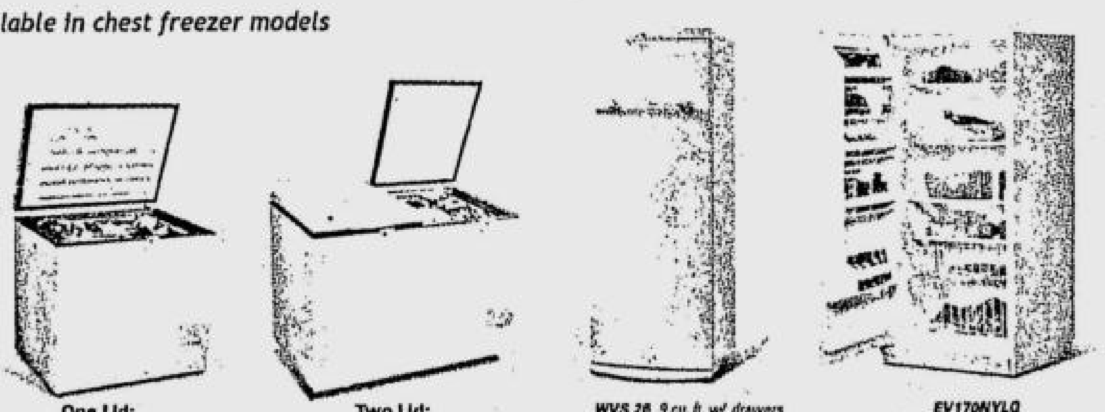

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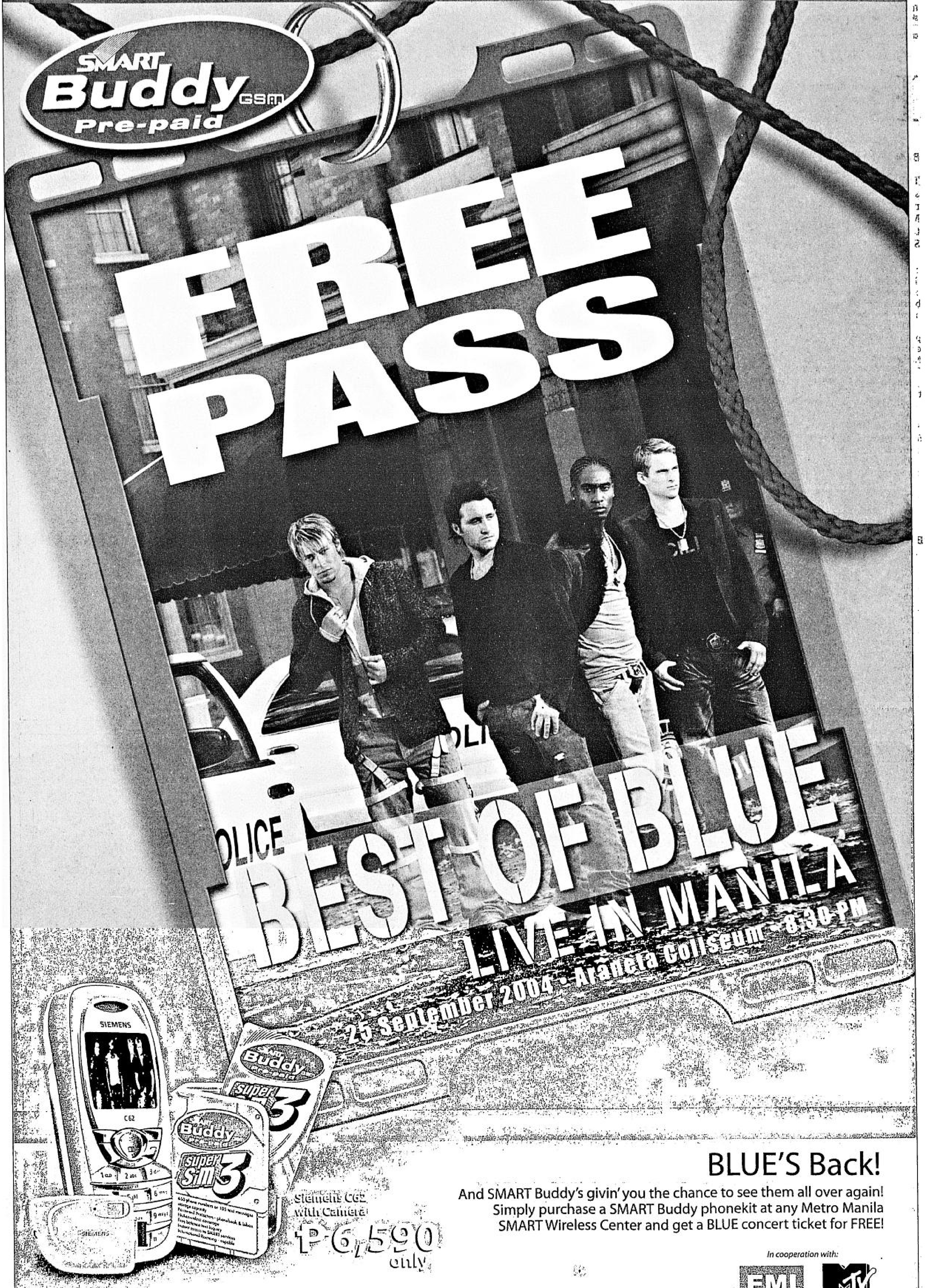
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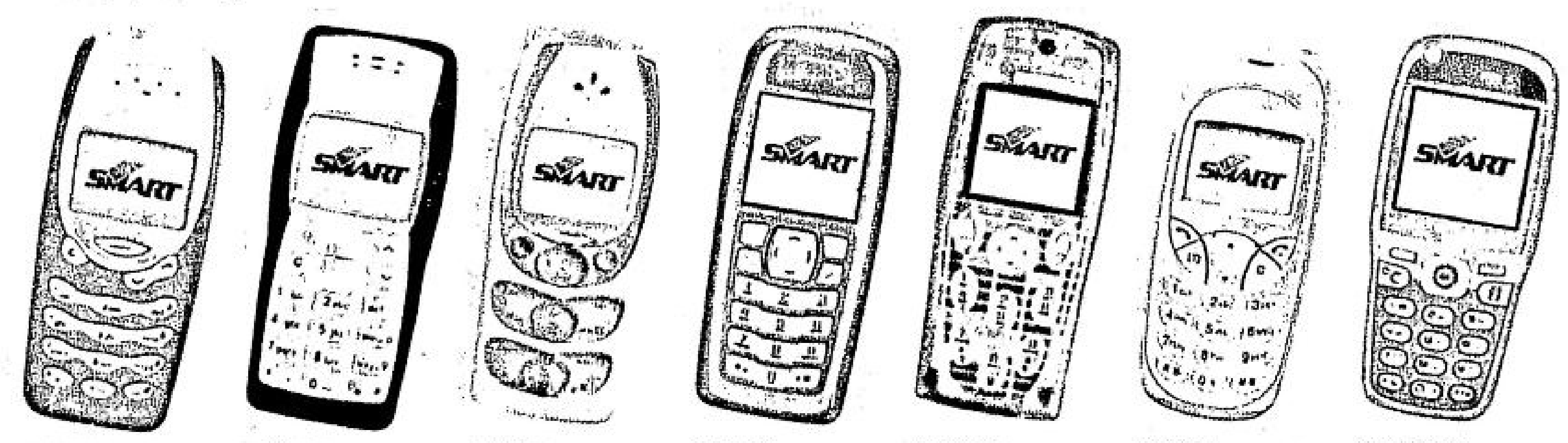

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Split opposition set to join forces—Loren

By Jolene R. Bulambot
PDI Visayas Bureau

CEBU CITY—The opposition is preparing to join forces and present to the government alternative proposals to address the country's fiscal crisis, this was revealed here on Thursday by former senator and defeated vice presidential candidate Loren Legarda.

Legarda, in a press conference Thursday night, said their aim was to build a "stronger opposition."

She declined to give details on the "grand unification" not wanting to preempt the other opposition leaders who would officially announce it.

She also refused to comment on the possible reconciliation with former colleague Panfilo Lacson, except to say that the negotiation to bring together all those in the opposition was still at the initial stages.

"We are attempting to unify parties allied with us during the recent campaign. It's important for the government to know that there is an opposition," Legarda said.

She noted that the united opposition would establish clear programs of action that would define issues, such as the present fiscal crisis and the proposal for a parliamentary form of government.

The aim is to establish a clear set of agenda "where the masses would be given direction of where the country is going," Legarda said, adding that the present administration is facing a "big challenge" in its call for sacrifice.

"We need to see substance and teeth on the government's austerity measures. With its fragile mandate, it's difficult to tell people to sacrifice," the former senator said.

Legarda said she was in favor of itemizing debts incurred by the government and finding out who were responsible for the country's foreign and local debts.

She agreed with the proposal to slash the pork barrel of legislators to alleviate the effects of the fiscal crisis but opposed giving the President full control of the fund.

PNP REVAMP

Cop in Al-Ghozi escape new CIDG chief

By Christian V. Esguerra

A POLICE general, under whose custody a top Muslim extremist escaped, is now the Philippine National Police's top investigator following a sweeping revamp undertaken by PNP chief Edgardo Aglipay that saw 29 other officials assuming new positions.

Chief Supt. Jesus Verzosa was appointed Criminal Investigation and Detection Group director, replacing Chief Supt. Arturo Lomibao who was appointed Calabarzon police regional director.

'Floating status'

Prior to his new assignment, Verzosa was with the Office of the Chief PNP, ostensibly a euphemism for "floating status," after the embarrassing escape on July 14, 2003 of Indonesian bomb-maker Fathur Rohman al-Ghozi from his Camp Crame cell.

Verzosa was then chief of the Intelligence Group that had custody of Al-Ghozi, one of the terrorists who staged the deadly Rizal Day bombings in Metro Manila in December 2000.

Verzosa is a graduate of Philippine Military Academy Class 1976. His deputy is Senior Supt. Rodolfo "Boogie" Mendoza, former Pampanga police director.

Lomibao replaced Chief Supt. Reynaldo Varilla as Calabarzon police director.

Chief Supt. Vidal Querol is the new Western Mindanao regional director. He was replaced as Central Luzon chief by Chief Supt. Quirino de la Torre.

Area police offices

Aglipay had planned to create area police offices. The new posts were supposed to be handled by Lomibao, Querol, De la Torre and Chief Supt. Rolando Garcia (Central Visayas), in their concurrent capacity as regional directors.

But because the National Police Commission junked the creation of the new positions, Aglipay said he would just put up task forces which will in effect also serve as area police offices.

The other new regional chiefs are Chief Superintendents Alfredo de Vera (Cagayan Valley), Dante Tejada (Northern Mindanao), Simeon Dizon Jr. (Southern Mindanao) and Rene Elumbaring (Caraga).

In Metro Manila, three of the five police districts now have new directors.

Chief Supt. Marcelino Franco moved out of the Northern Police District to head the PNP's elite Special Action Force. He was replaced by Chief Supt. Noe Wong, a member of PMA '75.

New CPD director

Senior Supt. Nicasio Radovan, head of Task Force Newsman, is the new Central Police District Director. Chief Supt. Wilfredo Garcia, erstwhile deputy director for operations, now heads the Southern Police District.

In the PNP directorial staff, three chief superintendents (one-star generals) assumed their new posts: Nicolas Pasinos (personnel and records management), Eduardo Gador (logistics), Doroteo Reyes (research and development).

Chief Supt. Marcelo Ele is the PNP's new top lawyer while Chief Supt. Servando Hizon, erstwhile SAF commander, now heads the Crime Laboratory.

Senior Supt. Leopoldo Bataoil regained his former post as PNP public information officer, replacing Chief Supt. Joel Goltiao. In turn, Goltiao got Bataoil's former post as Police Community Relations Group chief.

Other appointments

The rest of the new appointments were: Chief Superintendents Victor Boco (deputy director for personnel), Ray Roderos (deputy for intelligence), Silverio Alarcio (deputy for operations), Alejandro Andres (deputy for comptrollership), and Wilfredo Dulay (deputy for investigation and detective management), and Senior Supt. Leonardo Dionisio (deputy for research and development).

Senior Superintendents Charlemagne Alejandrino is the new executive officer for investigation and detective management, Edgardo Acuna (personnel records), Renato Heredia (intelligence), George Piano (comptrollership), Samson Tucay (human resource), Napoleon Cachuela (research and development), and Antonio Nanas (chief, Security Agencies and Guards Supervision Division).

37 'Taba' cops shipped to Subic for retraining

By Leila B. Salaverria

LAST month, three policemen were commended for their bravery in foiling a robbery.

Yesterday, the same policemen were shipped out to a secluded Philippine National Police facility in Subic for retraining, together with 34 other Taba (Tamad, Abusado, Bastos at Ayaw madisiplina) cops.

The three bemedalled operatives from the Western Police District are PO3 Robert Zapata, PO1 Ariel Iringan and SPO1 Serapio Galpo. They were commended recently—together with their team—for participation in a two-hour gun battle with suspected robbers that began in Binondo and ended in Sta. Cruz, Manila.

The ceremony was attended by Interior Secretary Angelo Reyes, then Philippine National Police chief Hermogenes Ebdane and former National Capital Region Police Office Director Ricardo de Leon.

The inclusion of three bemedalled policemen in the first batch of Taba cops surprised colleagues in the force, including Binondo police head Supt. Frumento Villareal.

"I did not recommend them for inclusion in the retraining," Villareal said. "They are very good policemen and they performed well in the shootout last month. There is no reason for them to be sent to Subic."

He asked around why they were being sent for retraining and was told that it was likely complaints had been filed against them in the past.

Villareal said that after their act of bravery for which they were commended, the three operatives had redeemed themselves and need not be grouped with delinquent policemen. He said he would help appeal the case.

Zapata, Iringan and Galpo have also filed complaints to the Manila's Finest Brotherhood Association Inc. (MFBAI), whose officials promised to help them.

MFBAI president SPO2 Antonio Emmanuel said that the aberrant inclusion of bemedalled policemen among the Taba cops proved that the program needed reevaluation.

"First, the officials must review their criteria for choosing the Taba cops. Why include bemedalled policemen when the retraining is meant to change delinquent operatives?" he told the INQUIRER in an interview.

PNP chief Edgar Aglipay, author of the renewed campaign against scalawags in uniform, was only able to send 37 Taba cops to Subic yesterday, instead of his initial goal of 100 officers. The rest were still completing standard requirements such as medical tests.

Members of the initial batch were all from the five districts under the National Capital Region Police Office, the PNP region which Aglipay hopes to turn into a model of police discipline for the rest of the 116,000-strong organization. *With Christian V. Esguerra*

Correction

IN YESTERDAY'S front-page story on the $1-billion borrowing of the national government, it was Finance Undersecretary Eric Recto and not Sen. Ralph Recto who disclosed to the INQUIRER the details of the borrowing.

* * *

Readers may send their requests for correction of factual errors in writing to Gerry Lirio, city editor, Philippine Daily Inquirer, PDI Building, Chino Roces Avenue corner Mascardo Street, Makati City; fax Nos. 897-4793/94; e-mail addresses:glirio@inquirer.com.ph and daydesk@inquirer.com.ph.

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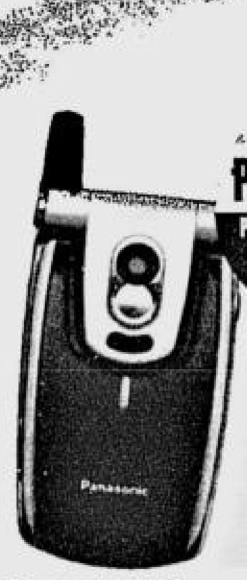
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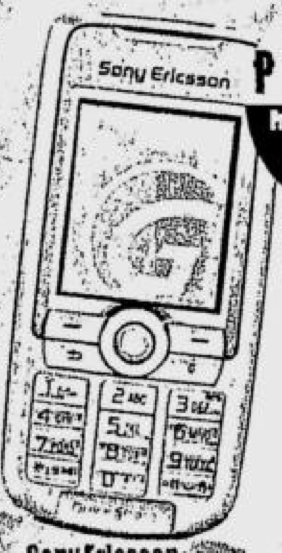
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RP seeks to allay Hanoi fears over Spratlys oil plans

THE PHILIPPINES yesterday sought to allay Vietnam's fears over a joint plan with China to map potential oil deposits around the disputed Spratly Islands, saying the move did not violate a code of conduct signed by claimants in 2002.

The foreign ministry of Vietnam on Thursday lashed out at China and the Philippines, accusing them of bypassing other claimants in signing the agreement to jointly explore the South China Sea for minerals.

It asked the two countries to provide information on the three-year plan, which was signed when President Macapagal-Arroyo visited China last week.

"This undertaking is based on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea. Anything that would be consistent with that earlier agreement, I believe, is something that could be considered," presidential spokesperson Ignacio Bunye said.

The code of conduct was signed by the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations in 2002. Asean members Brunei, Malaysia, the Philippines and Vietnam as well as China and Taiwan claim the Spratlys in part or whole.

A chain of atolls and reefs, the Spratlys are believed to be atop vast mineral and oil reserves. The islands are considered a flashpoint in the region, with the claimants engaged in deadly clashes in the past.

Bunye said Manila was willing to provide Hanoi with a copy of its agreement with China, stressing that the joint effort would only cover "seismic studies."

"This is all together different from actual joint exploration," he said.

Foreign Affairs Secretary Alberto Romulo early this week said Manila and Beijing would discuss the plan with other claimants of the Spratlys.

He said there had been no objections from other claimants to the survey and called it a "step toward possible future discussions between and among claimants on provisional cooperative arrangements" in the disputed area. *AFP*

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HK man jailed for rape attempt on Filipino maid

HONG KONG—A Hong Kong bus driver who pleaded guilty to trying to rape his Filipino maid has been jailed for three years and nine months, a newspaper reported on Friday.

The high court heard that Chan Lam-kin, 47, entered the bedroom of the 28-year-old victim on Sept. 26, 2003.

"I want you to be my wife. I want to make love to you," the South China Morning Post quoted him as saying before he attempted to rape the woman, who came to Hong Kong to work for Chan in July last year. She was not identified.

Chan left the room after the attack and the victim—who suffered bruises on her neck, back and shoulder as she struggled to fend him off—called her cousin for help, according to the Post. Chan was later arrested and pleaded guilty to attempted rape.

On Thursday, high court Judge Lawrence Lok sentenced Chan to three years and nine months in prison, describing his behavior as "beastly" and saying he had abused the victim's trust in him.

Department of Justice spokesperson Patricia Mok said she had no immediate information about the case. *AP*

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Gov't eyes OFW tax

From page A1

tong said yesterday in an interview after meeting with heads of local government units.

Amatong said the DOF was studying the proposal to restore the gross income tax on overseas Filipino workers, a possible alternative in case Congress fails to pass the main revenue-enhancement measures proposed by the executive department to ease the budget deficit.

The government is hoping to raise an additional P80 billion in annual revenue through the passage of the following legislative proposals: P2 increase in the excise tax on petroleum, raised taxes on cigarettes and alcohol to keep pace with inflation, two-step increase in the value-added tax, tax amnesty, shift from net to gross income taxation, attrition system for government agencies, imposition of franchise tax on telecommunication companies, and rationalization of fiscal incentives.

"We don't know how many of our tax measures will be approved, so we have to look for alternatives," Amatong said.

She quoted Philippine ambassadors as saying in initial discussions that OFWs had nothing against paying taxes—an indication, she said, that the latter were willing to do their share to help address the fiscal problem.

2-percent tax

Filipinos working abroad, considered modern-day heroes for remitting the much needed dollars to the country, used to pay a 2-percent gross income tax before the Comprehensive Tax Reform Program was implemented in 1997.

The amendments in the old tax law exempted them from paying taxes.

Amatong said the DOF would look into how much revenues were generated from OFW taxes to estimate how much the government could collect should the gross income tax be reimposed on them.

She said the possible tax collection from OFWs could be substantial for the government but not burdensome for them.

Opposition expected

She also said the DOF study would help determine whether it would adjust or retain the 2-percent tax rate if the plan is ultimately implemented.

While the proposal to reimpose taxes on OFWs is aimed at helping the government solve the budget problem, it is expected to elicit protest from cause-oriented groups representing Filipinos working abroad.

These groups, including Migrante International, earlier expressed opposition to suggestions that OFWs be taxed.

The budget deficit hit P199.9 billion last year, and is targeted to be slightly reduced to P197.8 billion by the end of this year.

The Arroyo administration's revenue-enhancement measures are aimed at helping the government achieve a zero deficit by 2009.

The government's posting of budget deficits over the past years has forced it to undertake huge debts, which hit P4.1 trillion as of February.

PRESIDENT Arroyo is welcomed by Chinese leader Jiang Zemin during the Filipino president's Beijing visit early this month. VAL HANDUMON

Wake-up call: We must do our homework with China

From page A1

the late Vice President and Foreign Secretary Salvador Laurel on the first visit of a high-ranking official of the Aquino government. It was agreed by both sides that the talking points between Deng and Laurel would not include the Spratlys.

However, at the end of the talks between the two leaders, Deng first made a direct hit at the spittoon in front of him then turned to his interpreter, who asked in English: "How about the Nansha (Spratly) Islands?"

Vice President Laurel was taken aback. After a few minutes of consultation with his advisers he replied: "We are not ready to talk about this issue since our government is so new. We want, however, to reiterate the Philippine claim to the Kalayaan Island Group in the Spratlys." Deng reminded his Filipino guest of China's historic claim to the Nansha Islands.

It is true that trade and tourism will open vast opportunities in our relations with China, but we should be worried that Philippine governments have hardly made any progress in delineating the outer limits of the baselines of our archipelago, from which will be measured the breadth of our territorial sea, the contiguous zone, the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) and the continental shelf in accordance with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (Unclos).

SHAHANI: Time to roll up our sleeves

Rodolfo Severino rightly said that one of the greatest diplomatic threats facing the Philippines today is the "uncertain extent of the Philippine territorial sea and exclusive economic zone." This is ironic since the Philippine delegation to the Conference on the Law of the Sea championed in 1956 the inclusion of the archipelagic principle in the Unclos and the brilliant Sen. Arturo Tolentino, now dead, signed 22 years ago in 1982, the Unclos for the Philippines.

Like it or not, the Unclos has now become the customary international law for maritime regimes of countries all over the world. New domestic legislation which complies with Unclos is critically needed. Without an official delineation of the extent of our territorial sea and of our EEZ under the Unclos, we cannot know how far to enforce our laws.

China occupied in 1995 Mischief Reef which sits within our EEZ and is 135 miles west of Palawan. It claims the structures on Mischief Reef are only shelters for Chinese fishermen, and that they were built by the People's Liberation Army and Navy without the approval of the top leadership.

Despite an agreement on a Code of Conduct between the two countries, China has upgraded facilities, including surveillance technology and other sophisticated equipment so that Mischief Reef could become a potential naval base. The former secretary of national defense, Orlando Mercado, described the construction as part of the "creeping invasion" of China, a "creeping occupation," a "talk and take" technique.

Perhaps it is no accident that at the height of the confrontation between China and the Philippines, the people's republic quickly sent in 1998 to the Philippines a woman ambassador, Madam Fu Ying, a specialist in the South China Sea, fluent in English and charming. Somehow, Philippine resistance was blunted during her mission.

It is quite obvious that the purely diplomatic approach to the Spratlys, from a soft state like the Philippines, is not working. The Chinese have not dismantled their structures on Mischief Reef. We must guard our maritime borders without blinking. But the ball is in our court; we have not done our work in relation to the Unclos. It is time to roll up our sleeves.

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Oct. 2, 2004 10:15-12:15	Justice Rodolfo G. Palattao (ret.) Sandiganbayan	Review of Anti-Corruption Laws and Updates in Jurisprudence (Substantive [Criminal] Law 2 units.
Oct. 2, 2004 1:00-3:00	Prof. Mario E. Valderrama Commercial Arbitrator	Arbitration Law in the Philippines and Mediation 2 units
Oct. 2, 2004 3:00-5:00	Justice Ruben T. Reyes Associate Justice, Court of Appeals	Anti-Sexual Harassment, Dangerous Drugs, Illegal Possession of firearms, Hazing, Child abuse and Other Special Penal Laws 2 units
Oct. 2, 2004 5:00-7:00	Dean Ernesto L. Pineda PLM Law Center	Updates in Torts and Damages 2 units
Oct. 9, 2004 8:00-10:00	Justice Magdangal M. de Leon Associate Justice, Court of Appeals	Orality in Advocacy 2 units
Oct. 9, 2004 10:00-12:00	Justice Lucas P. Bersamin Associate Justice, Court of Appeals	Pre-Trial Skills: Civil and Criminal Cases 2 units
Oct. 9, 2004 1:00-3:00	Justice Hector L. Hofileña (ret.) Associate Justice, Court of Appeals	Updates in Legal Ethics 2 units
Oct. 9, 2004 3:00-6:00	Dean Custodio O. Parlade Former Dean, San Sebastian College of Law	International and Domestic Commercial Arbitration: (Filing of Claims, Preparation for Arbitration, Arbitral Awards and their Enforcement) 3 units
Oct. 16, 2004 8:00-10:00	Atty. Mario E. Ongkiko Prominent Law Practitioner	The Art of Cross-Examinations: Criminal and Civil Cases . 2 units
Oct. 16, 2004 10:15 -12:15	Dean Ernesto L. Pineda PLM Law Center	Updates in Succession 2 units
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Oct. 23, 2004 8:00-10:00	Dean Ernesto L. Pineda PLM, Graduate School of Law and Law Center	Ethical Dimensions: Charging and Collection of Attorney's Fees 2 units
Oct. 23, 2004 10:15 – 12:15	Justice Hugo E. Gutierrez, Jr. (ret.) Supreme Court; Former Dean, PCU College of Law	Legal Writing and Brief Making 2 units
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JI admits Jakarta blast

From page A1

willing," the statement said, while advising the Australian government to pull out of Iraq.

It also said the Australian government had ignored previous warnings and taken part "in the war against our brothers in Iraq and supported the invading forces."

"In the case of [the government] not complying with our demands, we will direct numerous painful blows, God willing, against them and the queue of car bombs will not stop. The list of martyrs is still full," it said, adding that those who launched the 2002 Bali bombings were the same as those who attacked on Thursday.

Suicide bomber

In Jakarta, police yesterday said they believed a suicide bomber was behind the attack.

The theory emerged as Australian Foreign Minister Alexander Downer toured the scene of the explosion and forensic experts dispatched by Canberra began sifting through blood-spattered wreckage outside the embassy.

Suyitno Landung, Indonesia's top police detective, said witnesses had described how a car had driven up to the embassy and then exploded, causing massive damage to the embassy perimeter and nearby buildings.

"It stopped and exploded, so we think that the suspect was in the car when it exploded. There were stains of blood in the car," Landung told reporters.

Landung said intelligence from earlier arrests on Indonesia's central Java island indicated that three fugitive Islamic militants linked to Malaysian bombmakers had been willing to volunteer for suicide attacks.

Australian Federal Police Commissioner Mick Keelty, who accompanied Downer on his trip to Jakarta, said there were clear forensic links between the embassy blast and the explosions at Bali and Jakarta's Marriott hotel last year.

"There are fragments in the bomb outside the embassy that are similar with fragments that were found at the Marriott bombing. The modus operandi is very similar," Keelty said, adding that chemicals used in the bomb were also identical.

'Miracle'

During his visit to the embassy, still littered with debris and a burnt out car, Downer paid tribute to the dead and said it was a "miracle" more had not died in the explosion, which he said was bigger than the Bali blasts.

"I am advised that the bomb used here was larger than the bomb used in Bali, but of course you cannot make comparisons, in the sense that a total of 202 people were killed in Bali," he told reporters.

"One of the things that we won't forget is that some Indonesians died in the protection of our embassy. It is appalling what has happened to the embassy ... but my overwhelming impression is that it is a miracle people survived," he said. Downer later met with Indonesian President Megawati Sukarnoputri, who is also battling for reelection in polls scheduled for Sept. 20, as part of efforts in step up cooperation between the two country's police forces.

Early warning

Indonesian police are under scrutiny amid claims they had been warned of the attack and had failed to do respond to alerts from Australia and the United States warning of further possible strikes.

Howard said Indonesian police had received a message just an hour before the 10:30 a.m. explosion warning that a Western embassy could be attacked if authorities did not release the jailed Abu Bakar Bashir, an elderly Islamic cleric accused of guiding the Jemaah Islamiyah.

Downer said the message was an SMS text sent to a police mobile phone.

The message was not passed on to Australian Federal Police working with the Indonesians until nearly 6 p.m., Howard said.

But he declined to blame Indonesian authorities for the delay in passing on the threat.

The Jakarta Post newspaper echoed other press comments saying police "good work" in the wake of the Bali bombing had been undone as "officers and intelligence agencies have somehow allowed their vigilance to slacken."

Both the United States and Australia last month issued warnings to their citizens in Indonesia warning them to avoid Western hotels and other "soft" targets.

Howard said yesterday that new intelligence reports on Wednesday indicated the threat had shifted from hotels to other targets, but they did not specify what these might be.

Beefed-up security

In Manila, additional security forces have been dispatched to several diplomatic missions but defense officials said there was no "specific threat" of an immediate terror attack in the Philippines.

"There is no specific threat but it's better to be on heightened alert, especially with this incident, the bombing in Jakarta," Defense Secretary Avelino Cruz said yesterday.

Marine guards have bolstered security at the US, Japanese and Australian Embassies in Manila, while a tight watch has been placed over airports and harbors, which Cruz said was a favorite target of terrorists.

He said police and local government officials had also been put on alert for incidents marking the third anniversary of the 9/11 terror attacks in the United States.

Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye, spokesperson for President Macapagal-Arroyo, said the latest bombing in Jakarta underscored the need for more intelligence and information sharing in the region.

"We may have continued to score big against terrorists, but the attack at the Australian Embassy in Indonesia's capital clearly indicates that the challenge is indeed far from over," Bunye said.

"There is a need to strengthen intelligence and information sharing across our regional neighborhood, and we will continue to pursue our efforts with a high level of vigilance and collective security," he said. *Reports from Inquirer wires*

Jemaah Islamiyah at a glance

- A LOOSE network of Islamic militants extending across Southeast Asia, its name means "Islamic Community." Known to have various territorial divisions called "mantiqis" that cover Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore, the Philippines and Australia. Intelligence officials say some operations have been financed by Osama bin Laden's Al-Qaida.
- Blamed for terror attacks in Southeast Asia starting in 1999, including the Aug. 5, 2003, bombing of the JW Marriott hotel in Jakarta, which killed 12 people, and the Oct. 12, 2002, bombings on Bali that killed 202, mostly foreign tourists. Also accused of plotting to bomb Western embassies and a US naval facility in Singapore. Three dozen alleged members were convicted in the Bali bombings and more than 12 in the Marriott bombing.
- Wants to establish an Islamic state across Southeast Asia. Members also have claimed to be motivated by a desire to avenge what they call oppression of Muslims by the United States and its allies.
- Leaders are mostly Indonesian nationals trained in Afghanistan and the Indonesian island of Maluku. Muslim cleric Abu Bakar Bashir is in jail pending charges that he leads the group and played a role in the Marriott bombing. Following the arrests of Hambali and other alleged senior operatives, Indonesian officials say the group's leaders now include: Zulkarnaen, believed to have replaced Hambali as the group's operations chief; Azahari bin Husin, a Malaysian academic and reputed top bomb maker; alleged Malaysian bomb maker Noordin Mohammed Top; and Dulmatin, who allegedly played a key role in the Bali blasts. *AP*

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Separated twins . . .

From page A1

boys as they returned to the Children's Hospital at Montefiore for a routine scan to check on the wound from their operation and to look for any signs of brain swelling or scar tissue.

Marion said the boys have shown no neurological impairments from the operation and vital signs are fine. "The boys are stronger than ever and getting stronger," he said.

Carl and Clarence arrived in separate strollers, their heads still heavily bandaged but no longer sporting the "Carl" and "Clarence" labels they wore in the first days after they were separated.

"Everybody knows them now," said their mother, Arlene Aguirre, who brought them to New York from the Philippines a year ago.

Much better now

She reported that the boys were "much better now because they're very active." Looking rested and peaceful, she said she was happy that "the biggest part is over and they're both fine."

The boys seem delighted to be back at Montefiore, where they were gradually separated in four major operations that climaxed with an incision through a shared section of brain on Aug. 4.

They left Montefiore Aug. 30 for Blythedale Children's Hospital in Valhalla, where they're receiving physical therapy, speech therapy and nutrition designed to catch them up to normal development.

Their return prompted cries of "Let me see!" and "Where's my boyfriend?" from the nurses on the outpatient ward. Security man Bill Davin said, "They've gotten so much bigger" in their 10 days away.

Their mother and grandmother, Evelyn Aguirre, showed them off, getting them to nuzzle each other and giggle.

"They're playing together a lot," their mother said.

Some of the child-life specialists at the Children's Hospital then played with the twins in their strollers and on a mat. The boys, dressed identically in tan overalls and striped shirts, stretched Slinkys as far as they could, batted around a barrel-shaped toy with their arms and legs and tried to put the halves of plastic eggs together.

Several times, Carl nearly rolled over and seemed to be trying to get to his hands and knees.

Necks still weak

Marion said both boys have shown "the determination to stand and bear weight, but their neck muscles aren't yet strong enough to support their heads." When they're carried, caregivers cradle them like infants to support their heads.

Marion said there is some concern about the twins' reluctance to talk beyond a few favorite words, but he believes it's a combination of the lack of stimulation in their first year of life and "just being twins," who are known to talk later than other children.

He said both boys are now eating by mouth and growing fast.

"It is a miracle," he said, watching the boys. "It's the first time twins like this have survived neurologically intact. It's like a fairy tale, where a mother searches for someone who can grant her wish." *AP*

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The WORLD

Editor **Luverne B. Gueco**

US brands Darfur atrocities genocide

WASHINGTON—US Secretary of State Colin Powell called atrocities in Sudan's Darfur region genocide and demanded a UN probe into the crisis, hastening moves toward sanctions on Khartoum.

Powell told a Senate hearing that evidence compiled by the United States "concluded that genocide has been committed in Darfur and the government of Sudan and the Janjaweed bear responsibility, and that genocide may still be occurring."

The Sudanese government has been accused of arming and backing Arab militias, known as Janjaweed, which have rampaged through the western Darfur region.

An estimated 50,000 people have been killed and 1.4 million more uprooted in a campaign against black Africans, which began in February 2003 as an attempt to crush a rebel uprising.

"The United States is appalled by the violence in Darfur, Sudan," President George W. Bush said later, reiterating his administration's finding that genocide had been committed.

Powell said the United States had proposed a resolution to the UN Security Council, asking for a "full-blown and unfettered" investigation to confirm genocide had been committed and possibly consider oil sanctions on Sudan.

He said "the threat of sanctions is still out there, over them, particularly on the sector that is of greatest concern to them."

Powell admitted an "overall reluctance" by the international community to impose sanctions amid worry they might fail, but said the European Union would back the United States.

But the 15-nation UN Security Council emerged divided over the proposed US resolution.

Russia, Pakistan and especially China voiced strong objections to the draft, which hangs the threat of sanctions over Sudan, diplomats who attended the session said.

The resolution, like a similar measure passed July 30, demands that Khartoum disarm and rein in the Janjaweed and take other steps to end the violence or face international sanctions.

Sudan denied there was genocide in Darfur and doubted moves to impose sanctions would succeed.

"This is just another sort of pressure brought against the government of Sudan by the United States and Western governments," Finance Minister Ahmed Hassan al-Zubeir said. *AFP*

Bin Laden deputy says US forces near defeat in Iraq, Afghanistan

CAIRO—Once again al-Qaida has taken the anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks as an opportunity to issue a rallying call to its supporters, with the terror network's No. 2 leader proclaiming in a videotape that the United States will be defeated in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"The defeat of America in Iraq and Afghanistan has become a matter of time, with God's help," Ayman al-Zawahri said on the tape, which was broadcast Thursday by the pan-Arab television station Al-Jazeera. "The Americans in both countries are between two fires, if they continue they bleed to death and if they withdraw they lose everything."

A bearded al-Zawahri, wearing eyeglasses, a white turban and a black vest over a white shirt, looked into the camera as he spoke. An assault weapon was propped against the wall behind him.

US forces face fierce resistance in parts of Afghanistan and across Iraq, but military commanders insist they maintain the upper hand against insurgents in both countries.

Pakistani Army spokesperson Gen. Shaukat Sultan, whose forces staged an offensive against al-Qaida and Taliban remnants in the border region with Afghanistan this week, said the tape was likely aimed at "boosting the morale of the terrorists who have suffered heavy casualties."

Judging from reaction on websites known for militant Muslim comment, those who share al-Qaida's view of the United States as the enemy of Islam found reassurance in al-Zawahri's appearance.

"God is great, how beautiful is Sheik Ayman's face," wrote a contributor to one of militant websites on Friday. "Thank God, who alleviated our worry, and pleased the heart and showed us these bright faces, after we've been seeing the faces of the oppressors and hypocrites, day and night."

Other militant websites carried portions of Al-Jazeera's tape, purported photographs of al-Zawahri's boss, Osama bin Laden, on the battlefield and of the 19 Sept. 11 suicide hijackers with captions declaring them "martyrs" and "heroes of the battles of New York and Washington."

A previously unknown group calling itself "Supporters of al-Zawahri" posted a Web statement Friday claiming to have kidnapped two Italian aid workers in Iraq, accusing the Italian government of helping US soldiers abuse Iraqi prisoners, and saying if the Italy wants to know anymore about the condition of the abducted women, it must pledge to release all Muslim women held in Iraqi prisons.

The authenticity of the claim could not be verified, but its appearance a day after al-Zawahri's video aired demonstrates how militant thinkers try to use current events to draw attention to their cause.

Al-Jazeera continued to air the tape, which is had exclusively, Friday. It had aired too late Thursday for newspapers in the Arab world to include in Friday's editions.

Al-Qaida has issued an audio tape from bin Laden, in the two previous years on Sept. 10. Intelligence officials were working to confirm the speaker was al-Zawahri. *AP*

TWIN beams of light are displayed to form the "Tribute in Light" at the US Embassy in Montevideo, Uruguay, in honor of the third anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks in New York, Sept. 9.

AP

Thais suffer bird flu death; WHO worried

BANGKOK—Thailand cleared the way Friday for the vaccination of 30 million fighting cocks after the kingdom's ninth bird flu death this year prompted World Health Organization warnings of more deaths to come.

Komsan Fukhom, 18, from eastern Prachin Buri province died on Wednesday, becoming the 28th Asian fatality from the lethal strain of bird flu that swept the region in 2004.

Komsan was stricken with the H5N1 form of the virus late last month after his 30 fighting cocks died, but initially refused hospital treatment, Thai officials said. He was eventually admitted Saturday.

A 16-year-old was placed under surveillance by health officials as he was close to the man who died and was known to have handled the fighting cocks.

The WHO said Friday the man's death was unlikely to be the last as the virus was endemic in Asia.

"Tragically, the broad picture is we think cases will continue to pop up in humans as well as, of course, in poultry," Peter Cordingley, spokesperson for the WHO's Western Pacific Office in Manila, said.

"The virus is still there and we don't think any real progress has been made in fully eradicating it," said Cordingley, who added that fighting cock handlers were particularly at risk because training the birds required extensive handling.

There are an estimated 30 million fighting cocks owned by six million households across the kingdom, according to the Thai Cockfighting Association.

Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra said Friday the government would allow them to be vaccinated but not poultry to ensure a ban was not slapped on exports.

"I have instructed officials to... use the vaccine for fighting cocks, but for poultry it is absolutely forbidden," Thaksin told reporters.

Thailand—the world's fourth largest poultry exporter—had until Friday ruled out using vaccines as a way of fighting its outbreak despite advice from the United Nations that countries should consider inoculating birds.

The UN's Food and Agriculture Organization declared in July it was backing broader use of vaccinations, which would guarantee an import ban by the European Union—a key export market for Thailand. The EU has already blocked imports of Thai poultry until at least December.

A transport ban and fighting cock "passports" were among measures introduced by Thailand to try to prevent the birds spreading disease while being taken across the country for fights. The finest specimens are worth 500,000 baht ($12,000) each and fights are well-attended and attract large sums in wagers.

Thailand, Vietnam, Indonesia, China and Malaysia have all reported bird flu outbreaks since July after an earlier crisis this year left eight dead in Thailand and 16 in Vietnam and crippled poultry industries.

Vietnam late last month confirmed that three more people had died from the disease—bringing its toll to 19—more than four months after declaring that bird flu had been contained. *AFP*

100 'ghost detainees' held by US in Iraq, says general

WASHINGTON—As many as 100 "ghost detainees," many more than originally revealed, were held secretly by US forces in Iraq, the army general leading an Abu Ghraib prison abuse probe told a congressional committee Thursday.

Gen. Paul Kern told members of the Senate armed services committee that investigators had "found many reports... of people that were brought into the facilities and who were moved so that they could not be identified by the International Red Cross.

"This is in violation of our policy, which requires us to register people so that it can be reported that they are being held in detention," he said.

Kern said the Pentagon has commissioned two probes—by the Department of Defense inspector general and the CIA inspector general—into the illegal practice, which he described as "perhaps one of the more troubling pieces of our investigation."

As recently as several weeks ago, the team of investigators had estimated that US forces hid just eight ghost detainees from the International Committee of the Red Cross in violation of the Geneva Conventions.

While Kern said officials now believe that perhaps as many as 100 secret detainees had been held, another Pentagon investigator, Maj. Gen. George Fay, said he believed the number to be somewhat lower, "maybe two dozen or so—maybe more."

Kern and Fay said the Pentagon is seeking more concrete figures from the Central Intelligence Agency, which played a key role in many of the interrogations at the prison, to determine exactly how many inmates were secretly held.

Kern made his remarks as the Armed Services Committee heard testimony into failures of oversight that allowed the scandal to occur.

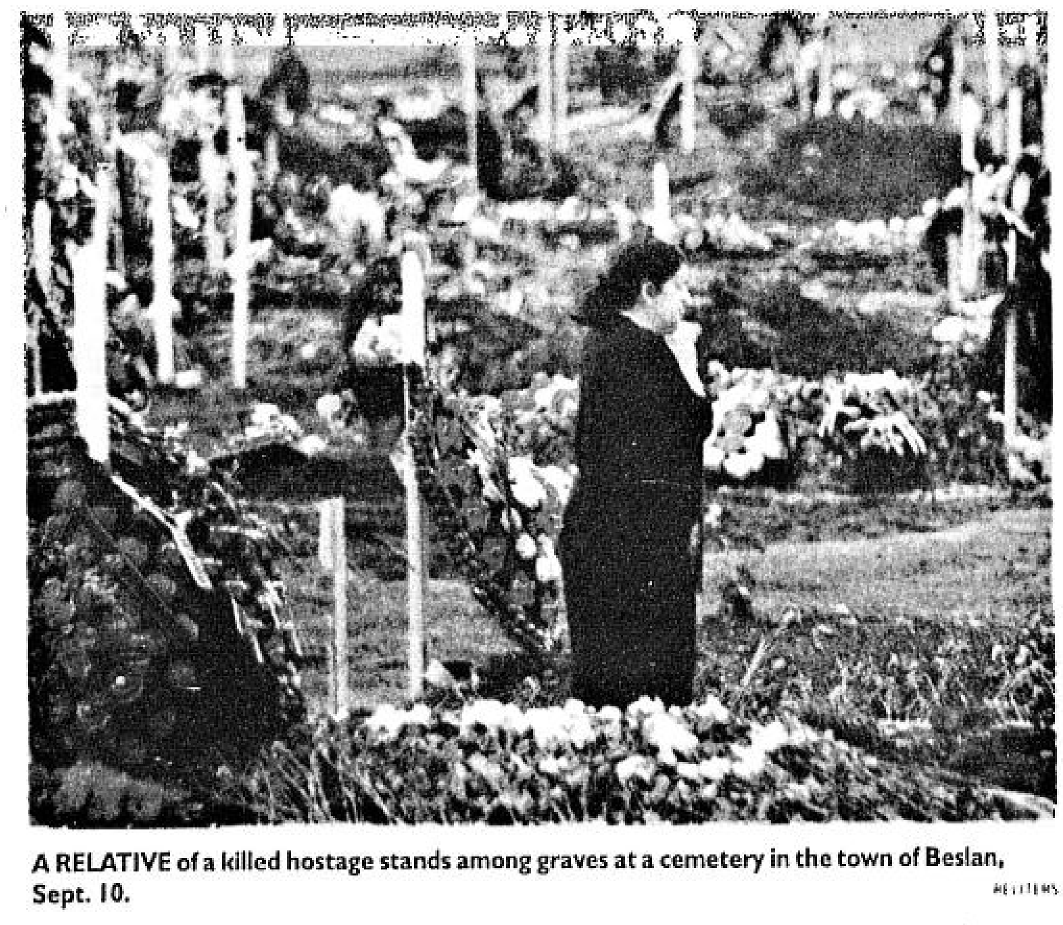
The nonprofit group Human Rights Watch denounced the hidden imprisonment.

"Secret detention is the gateway to torture," Reed Brody, legal counsel for the New York-based organization, said in a statement.

"History shows that when people are taken off the books, that is when they are most vulnerable to all kinds of abuse, including mistreatment, torture and even disappearance."

The chair of the Senate committee, Republican John Warner of Virginia, said at the hearing that more than 300 allegations of abuse of prisoners in Iraq and Afghanistan have been made to date, and that 66 allegations of abuse have been substantiated at Abu Ghraib.

The prison abuse scandal became a cause celebre in April, after several now-notorious photographs depicting the abuse at Abu Ghraib were published around the world. *AFP*



A RELATIVE of a killed hostage stands among graves at a cemetery in the town of Beslan, Sept. 10.

REUTERS

Young Russian hostage survivors need lengthy counseling to overcome trauma

By Henry Meyer

VLADIKAVKAZ, Russia—When an Orthodox priest came to visit Tsarina, 14, with words of comfort and a small cross to put around her neck, she recoiled at the sight of his bushy black beard.

"I got frightened that he was a terrorist," says the teenager, who survived the Beslan school siege together with her 10-year-old sister Rosita.

The first night after she was brought to hospital, Tsarina had a nightmare that she was back inside the school with the hundreds of other hostages and masked gun-toting gunmen.

A week after the siege ended in a massacre with the deaths of more than 330 adults and children, she is still frightened sleeping at night and has a panic feeling that firing could erupt any time.

Hundreds of child survivors from the 1,200 hostages will need months if not years of psychological counseling to overcome the mental scars of the trauma inflicted by the bloody hostage drama, say doctors.

"They will stand apart their whole lives, as long as they continue to remember it. What they saw was the stuff of one's worst nightmares," says Lyudmilla Kaitukova, a psychologist who is leading efforts to help the victims.

In the first few hours after the children rushed out of the school through a hail of gunfire, half-naked and smeared in blood, they were in a profound state of shock, many of them crying uncontrollably.

Those who were transported to the main children's hospital in this southern Russian city finally calmed down after being administered sedatives, but they slept uneasily with their eyes open.

Staff left them toys, plasticine and drawing materials to encourage the children to express their feelings of horror.

One 16-year-old recounted how he had tried to save a 7-year-old girl by dragging her along with him as he escaped, but her hand came off from her body, which had been severed by a launch-grenade.

Children who went straight home because they were not injured are just as traumatized, according to the pediatric psychologists who have been to visit them.

For those aged up to 11 or 12 years, who were separated from their parents for three days during their ordeal, all they want now is to be held by the hand.

Many will not let their parents get out of eyesight, are afraid to go to the toilet, suffer from headaches and bad moods and sleep fitfully. Deprived of water when they were held in the stifling hot and crowded gym, they carry water bottles everywhere with them.

The worst affected are those who lost one of their parents or a sibling. *AFP*

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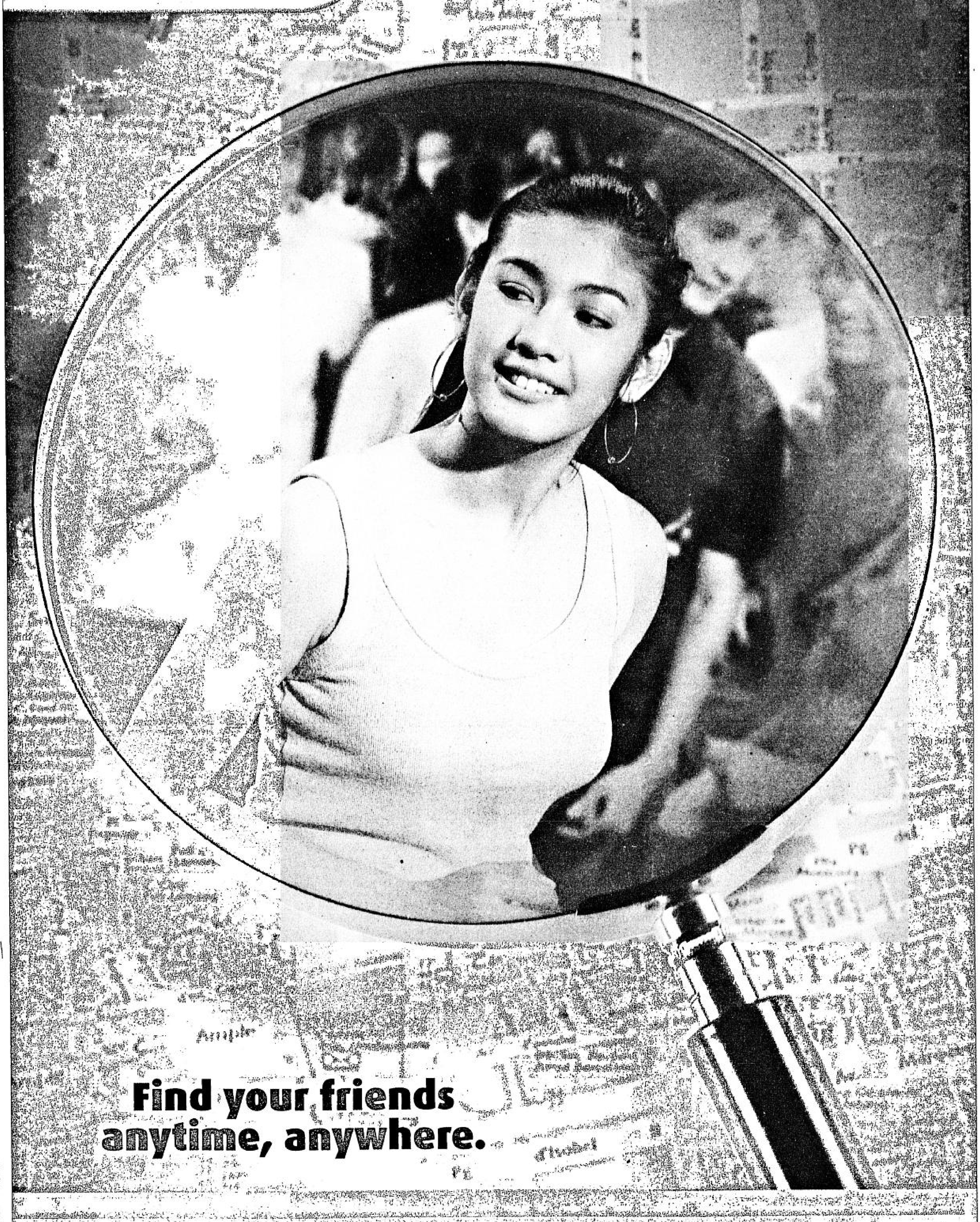
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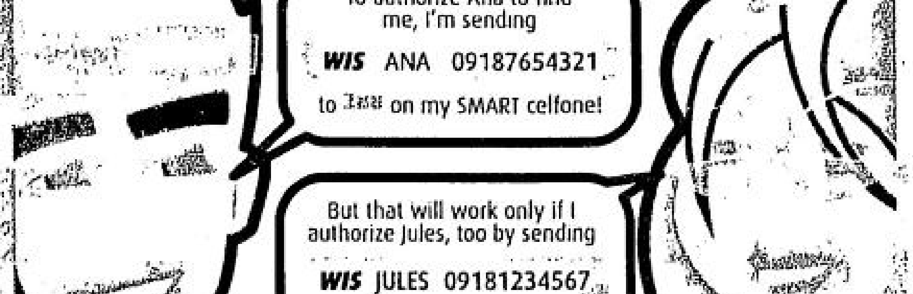
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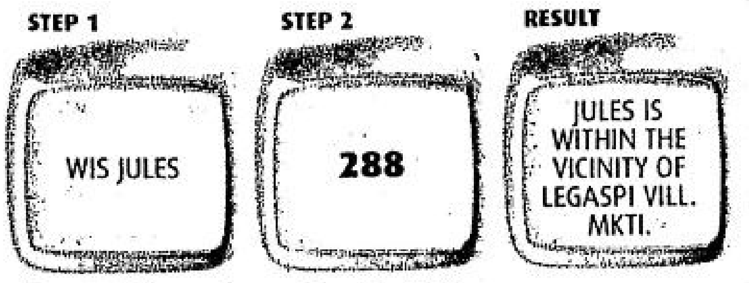
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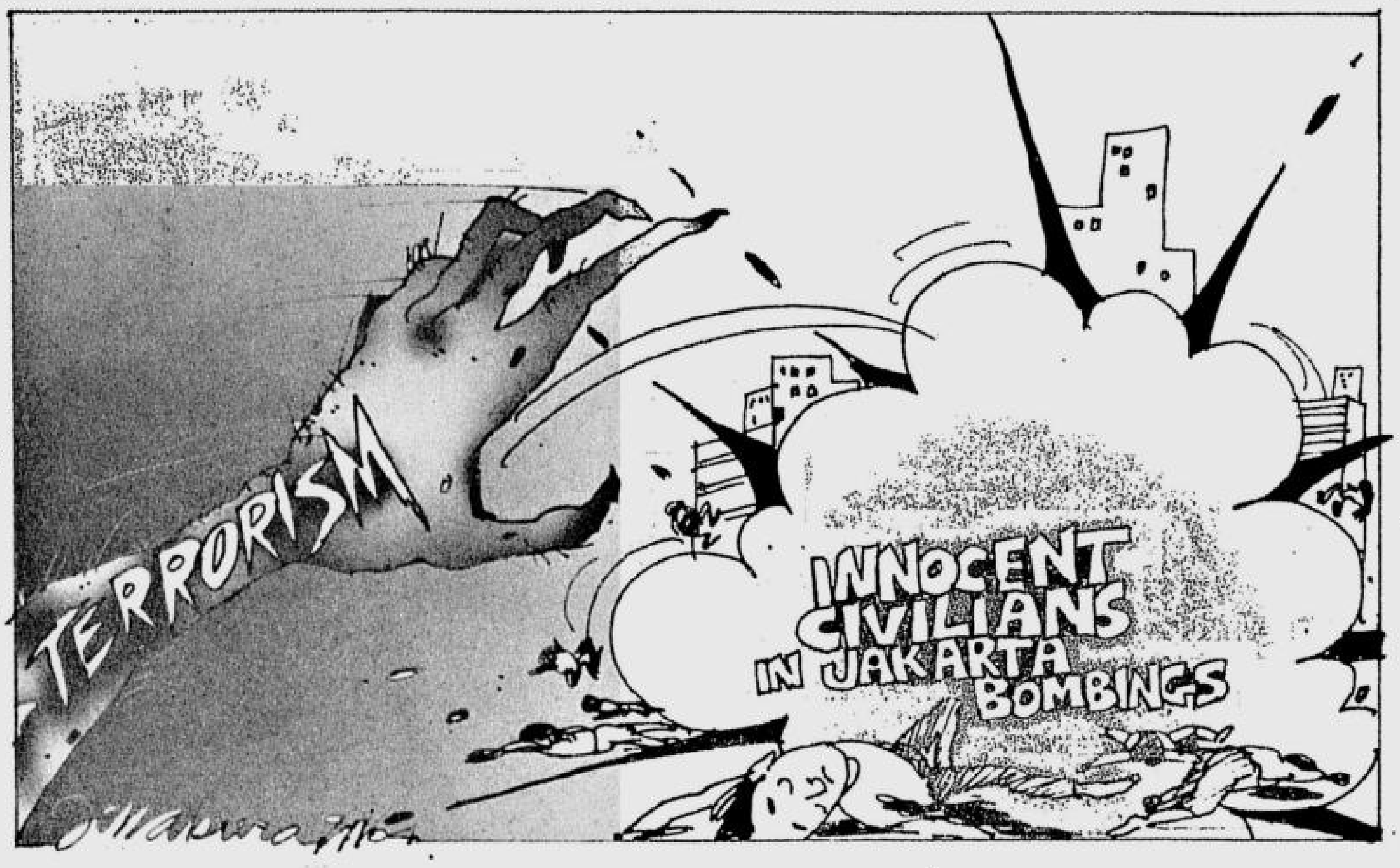
TERRORISM
INNOCENT CIVILIANS IN JAKARTA BOMBINGS

Blackest hole

EDITORIAL

WHY is the government seemingly powerless in containing the runaway fiscal deficit? Easily a major reason is the National Power Corp. It has a total debt of P1.4 trillion. That is over 30 percent of the national government debt of P3.3 trillion. Its losses this year are expected to reach P115 billion—already two-thirds of the total net losses that all 49 government-owned and -controlled corporations (GOCCs) are expected to incur this year. In short, Napocor is the mother of all bleeding GOCCs! It is the chief millstone around the neck of the nation.

But oh, the Arroyo administration wants to tighten the millstone around the people further, making it even heavier. It wants taxpayers to shoulder the P20 billion in additional subsidy to GOCCs under the proposed 2005 budget. This does not include the interest payment of Napocor's debt: P36.7 billion this year. A lawmaker has called Napocor's fantastic debt as the "black hole" in the government's finances.

How has it come to this? Since the Marcos dictatorship, especially with the construction of the Bataan Nuclear Power Plant, Napocor has been bleeding. Its financial problems have been inextricably linked with the government's fiscal and debt woes. From 1981 to 1986, it is said that Napocor accounted for 46 percent of the deficits of all the GOCCs. Since the 1990s, the losses have continued to grow—from P4 billion in 1998 to P13 billion in 2000 to P34 billion in 2003.

The nuclear plant has been the single biggest cause of Napocor's losses. It was built at a staggering $1.2 billion during its time. But it has not produced a single watt of electricity because it was built on a fault line and is defective.

Nevertheless, the Aquino administration chose to honor the debt incurred by the Marcos kleptocracy in building the plant. Thus, the nation ensured the security of the US creditors who made possible the loan to build a nuclear plant on a fault line by Westinghouse, which couldn't care less if it was building a dangerous plant as long as it got the juicy, graft-ridden contract. When the Aquino administration chose the legal way to remedy the onerous contract, it lost in the US courts, which, of course, chose to protect US interests.

Now, Westinghouse has been paid many times over, as well as the US banks that loaned an American-cornered project. The close Marcos associate who brokered the deal has gotten away with murder, and the government is paying for an onerous and oppressive debt that threatens to foreclose the republic.

When the power crisis struck in the early 1990s, the Ramos administration hastily approved deals with the independent power purchasers (IPP). In so doing, he guaranteed the profits of the IPPs even if the normal business risks such as the currency devaluation and fuel price increases were absorbed by Napocor. According to a paper prepared by Maitet Diokno-Pascual of the Institute of Popular Democracy, President Arroyo made matters worse when in 2002, in response to consumer protests against the purchased power adjustments (PPA) that benefit the IPPs, she imposed a cap on what Napocor could recover from consumers for the contracts with the IPPs. She reduced the PPA charge from P1.25 kilowatt hour down to 40 centavos and also cut Napocor's revenues by 85 centavos per kWh. She ordered a review of the contracts but all that her team could renegotiate with the IPPs were savings of 9 centavos per kWh. Whether or not the committee she assigned intentionally bungled the negotiations, we don't know. What we know is that Napocor's losses ballooned from P4 billion in 2001 to P34 billion a year later.

Worse, the government allowed Meralco to buy power from the IPPs, some of them Meralco's own, violating the power distributor's contract to buy power from Napocor.

Thus, while the government ensures the profitability of the IPPs, it cannot seem to ensure the profitability of Napocor. It cannot even ensure that power distributors honor their contracts with Napocor. Wittingly or unwittingly, the government itself may be bleeding—and killing—its own firm.

What picture do we see here? Napocor's massive debt problem and the government's own fiscal woes have been created by a combination of mismanagement, corruption and lack of transparency and accountability. Napocor is a classic case of rent-seeking, influence-peddling, and corruption, abetted by government's penchant for hiding the books, evading the issue, and not consulting the public, who ultimately would have to bear with the depredations of the corrupt in and out of government. Napocor is not only the blackest hole, it is also the dirtiest hole.

The American presidents

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

AS has become habitual with him, my son Caloy brought me another book he knew would interest me. It's "The History of the American Presidency," a new work by John Bowman that immediately appealed to me because I was born and grew up during the US administration of our country although I am not at all an Amboy. It's the size of a coffee-table book and beautifully printed in China with color portraits and reproductions of some popular paintings. Its most important parts are, of course, the articles about the 42 presidents of the United States from George Washington to George W. Bush. The length of each article depends on the importance of the subject.

I finished reading the book and looking at the pictures in one sitting. I learned a lot about the men who have occupied, deservedly or not, what is now the most powerful office in the world. For example, not many people, including the Americans themselves, hardly knew Harry S. Truman when he became president upon the death of the popular Franklin D. Roosevelt, who was elected all of four times, the only one who holds that record. Yet Truman is now rated as one of the great presidents although, and this is another supposed shortcoming, he was not an intellectual like Woodrow Wilson or at least entered college, even a third-rate one, like Richard Nixon.

In fact, there were presidents who did not receive little or no formal schooling and yet received the trust of the American electorate. Among them were George Washington and Abraham Lincoln, the foremost US heroes whose faces are immortalized in granite in that famous sculpture at Mount Rushmore. Washington stopped going to school when he was 15, and Lincoln attended school for less than a year. But as president, Washington had as advisers the erudite Thomas Jefferson and John Adams, who also both became president, and Alexander Hamilton, the learned leader of the Federalists. Lincoln, by self-study, became a lawyer; he was one of the wisest statesmen among his peers and saved the Union during the Civil War. His excellent English has not been equaled by other presidents before or after him.

Besides Washington, several other generals followed him to the presidency, namely, Ulysses S. Grant, William Henry Harrison, Zachary Taylor, Rutherford Hayes, James Garfield, Chester Arthur, and Dwight Eisenhower. None of them was known for scholastic distinction although Eisenhower was president of Columbia University before he became president of the United States. Jackson was also a lawyer like Martin Van Buren, Millard Fillmore and Grover Cleveland. He introduced the spoils system in American politics besides vulgarizing his high office, which was occupied before by the aristocrats and intellectuals from Virginia.

Most of the 42 presidents graduated from college. The others stopped formal studies at a young age or started it late in life, among them, in addition to Washington and Lincoln, Jackson, Van Buren, Taylor, Fillmore, Andrew Johnson, Cleveland, and Truman.

Those who were denied a second term are Adams, his son John Quincy, Van Buren, Tyler, Polk, Fillmore, Pierce, Buchanan, Andrew Johnson, Hayes, Arthur, Benjamin Harrison, Taft, Hoover, Ford, Carter, and Bush Sr. Garfield, McKinley, and Kennedy were assassinated, while Harding and William Harrison died in office of natural causes. As initially constitutional successors, Coolidge, Truman and Lyndon Johnson later won presidential election in their own right but all three declined reelection.

Only two of the presidents have been impeached—Andrew Johnson, who escaped conviction by one vote, and Clinton, who was acquitted. Nixon avoided impeachment and almost certain removal because of the Watergate scandal; he chose to resign, the only president in American history to do so. Warren Harding was generally disfavored for his incompetence that he himself admitted. His term was marred by the Teapot Dome scandal involving some of his top cronies and members of his Cabinet, and he died under suspicious circumstances at the height of the exposé.

Among the least controversial presidents were Eisenhower, who served during "the era of good feelings" after World War II and Ronald Reagan, the former actor who was also reelected with the highest electoral vote so far. John F. Kennedy was popular because of his style and charisma, as well as his beautiful First Lady, the enchanting Jackie. His worst embarrassment was the Bay of Pigs fiasco and his most notable achievement was his confrontation with Khrushchev during the Cuban missile crisis.

History has yet to give its verdict on current President George W. Bush, who is now running for another term. He got a dubious victory over Al Gore in 2001 who won the popular vote but lost the electoral vote in Florida where Dubya's brother was the governor. Bush launched that unpopular invasion of Iraq which he is now hard put to explain to the American voters.

The book offers the longest articles to Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln, Grant, Theodore Roosevelt, Wilson, Franklin Roosevelt, Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy, Lyndon Johnson, and Nixon, obviously because of their achievements, and George W. Bush, probably as a courtesy to the incumbent.

Time for Congress to buckle down to work

GET REAL

Solita Collas-Monsod

THE FISCAL situation is even worse than we originally thought, if one is to believe Rep. Joey Salceda, who has written a paper, entitled "Dimensions of the Philippine Fiscal Crisis: A Roadmap to Fiscal Rehabilitation." Very similar to the "Deepening Crisis" paper prepared by 11 UP School of Economics faculty members, even using the same quotation as a caveat ("a thousand needles on thyself before a single needle on thy patient"), Joey's paper has much more-technical detail and simulations.

One important detail not mentioned in the UP paper is of particular urgency: that in 2005 (that's next year—only three months away) there will be a bunching up of maturing loans that will push debt service requirements of the national government to P687 billion. With a revenue target of P730 billion, that would leave only P43 billion for government operations unless those requirements are refinanced.

Of that P687 billion, the foreign component will amount to $4.5 billion, which represents 150 percent of the amount of foreign funds that the government needed to raise annually from 2001 to 2003.

Put yourself in the shoes of our foreign creditors. Do you think they will roll over that kind of debt on the strength of the usual promises? No, says Salceda. They would demand not only substantial improvements in the deficit picture, but also that these improvements be firm (i.e., legislated) and forthcoming.

We all know what will happen if they are not convinced. At best, it will mean an increase in the interest rates they are charging us (we are already paying a premium of 440 basis points or 4.4 percentage points over the base rate, compared to Thailand at 97 basis points), with every percentage point increase representing an additional P19 billion in debt service cost, based on the government's $35-billion debt (the total public debt is $57 billion). At worst, the foreign creditors may stop lending completely. In which case, our expected two- to three-year window will have been closed, and the fiscal bomb will explode.

Time's a-wasting, folks. The discussions now going on, particularly in the Senate, evoke mental pictures of Nero fiddling while Rome burned. Some of our lawmakers seem to be more concerned about pointing the finger of blame away from themselves (who exempted lawyers and doctors from VAT, pray tell?), or cutting some recommended measures to bits without coming up with better alternatives, instead of legislating much-needed substantive, timely and firm measures that will reassure our creditors (and investors).

Just imagine, for example, how the latter would react if it was the whole Senate, rather than just the Fabulous Four (Drilon, Flavier, Lacson, Roxas) who immediately forswore their P200-million pork barrel. Or, how about the much delayed indexation of sin taxes being passed into law within the month? All they have to do, after all, is dust off the old bill which the last Congress didn't pass.

Unfortunately, even if we managed to avoid creditor fatigue in 2005, or any other potential disaster around the corner, it seems that by 2007, without hikes in contributions, the Social Security System is expected to run up cash flow deficits for the first time, and the government will have to come to the rescue (in the same way that it has forked over the retirement benefits for the members of the military and the police whose funds were wasted away by the RSBS).

Joey may be overdramatizing when he quotes a World Bank study that estimates the implicit public debt (or the actuarial reserve deficiency) of the SSS at P1.4 trillion and the GSIS at P0.4 trillion, for a combined P1.8 trillion contingent liability. But not by much. As the UP paper pointed out, the Philippine experience shows that these liabilities have a tendency to find their way into government books. In that case, the existing public debt stock of P5.39 trillion might balloon to P8.4 trillion by 2007.

But, as with the Fabulous Four's forswearing pork, there are other silver linings in the form of concrete actions. One was the rate increase granted to the National Power Corp. by the Energy Regulatory Commission last week, to the sound of screams and protests. It will be remembered that rate increases for government corporations, and their depoliticization, was one of the measures recommended by the UP economists. Salceda is in total agreement. With assumed liabilities of government corporations and off-budget outlays accounting for 37 percent of the increase in government debt between 1997 and 2003, and with the Napocor accounting for the largest losses and the largest debts, it is only logical that the government firm would be a primary focus.

A couple of Salceda's lurid details about the Napocor: the 40-centavo cap mandated by President Macapagal-Arroyo on Napocor charges cost the government over P37 billion (official estimates by PSALM are P16 billion). The all-in per unit cost of production of the Napocor is P4.31 per kWh, and until the rate increase last week, it was charging P2.58 (no wonder it loses P116 billion a year).

Salceda points out an important benefit from the move: "...the bigger positive impact of the tariff adjustment is that it rectifies one of the most egregious anomalies in the history of Philippine social policy. The P116 billion yearly financial support of the government to the Napocor represents the biggest public subsidy to the rich in our fiscal history."

By the way, Salceda also told me that Congress has already accepted a 50-percent cut in the pork barrel, as reflected in the budget. If true, it gives the strongest signal so far that Congress means business. And about time, too.

Senate should give priority to tax measures

POLITICAL TIDBITS

Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

THE SENATE doubtless means well when it wants to investigate the financial statements of the government-owned and controlled corporations (GOCCs), including their salary scales and perks and their loans contracted with government guarantees. Senators Joker Arroyo and Manuel Villar want especially the Napocor investigated. This may be in order, considering the behavior and state of some of these GOCCs, which have tempted lawmakers to suggest that they be privatized.

But there is also the danger that the Senate could get carried away by all its investigations, diverting its attention from the bigger problem at hand: finding a solution to the fiscal crisis. Let's reform the GOCCs by all means, and punish the profligate spenders, but let's pass the needed tax measures first in order to alleviate the fiscal crisis.

* * *

In addition to the senators' investigating the GOCCs, Sen. Miriam Santiago is on a separate blitz. She questions the administration's old decision to send troops to Iraq, on top of the Reghis Romero-Fidel Ramos connection in the Smokey Mountain issue (why did she open this issue only now, when the logical time was during the Erap administration, of which she was very much a part?). Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile wants to look at the energy situation while Sen. Rodolfo Biazon wants the RSBS mess reinvestigated. Some senators are also training their guns on a small savings bank. Is any one of them thinking of the fiscal crisis?

* * *

I had a brief conversation recently with Philippine Stock Exchange director and former Allied Bank president Peter Favila, and he revealed that monetary authorities recently opened a "tap-up" facility of Republic of the Philippines bonds amounting to $750 million, and are currently receiving orders. What surprised them was that orders amounting to $3 billion have already been received from the global market and more seems to be coming!

What did the trick? I asked Favila. He said it was when this country faced up to the reality that it has a problem with its budget deficit. "That sent a very good signal abroad," he said.

Accepting the "reality," however, is not enough. Congress has to pass certain tax measures, in order to raise added revenues and the Senate and the House have to get their act together. Not too long ago, a respected foreign publication deplored the way our Congress kept debating the fiscal problem—e.g., is there a problem at all and who's to blame—when it should be looking for solutions. Foreign investors are watching what it will do.

* * *

The situation in the Senate reminds a sidewalk philosopher of a patient rushed to the emergency room with his blood pressure plunging, complaining of chest pains and coughing up blood. After a cursory examination, the doctors became engrossed in analyzing what caused his sickness, asking him interminable questions about it. Pretty soon, they were arguing about which factors to blame for the patient's condition. All the time he lay there unattended and ready to collapse.

* * *

Undersecretary Edgardo Manda, former Naia manager, wrote that "it is with a deep sense of shock and disappointment" that he seeks to enlighten this column and dispel the "delusion and disinformation" being fed by his critics. He was referring to an item here deploring the terrible state of Naia's toilets. Manda stressed that contrary to reports cited here that repair of each toilet would cost P16 million each, it would cost only P900,000 each. He also said that while he has never been against the modernization of all Naia terminals, including the mothballed Naia 3, he was always against the 42 major defects in the latter "which Piatco miserably failed to address."

Just two comments. If the repair of the toilets cost only P900,000 each, why wasn't this done? Judging from the drawn-out controversy involving Naia 3, Naia 1 will remain the premier airport, so its toilets have to be fixed, no ifs, ands or buts about it. There is simply no excuse for having dirty toilets. As for Naia 3's defects, how come these were detected only when it was about to be opened?

* * *

Erda corner: After I wrote that seven Erda Tech students remained unsponsored, a Filipino-Chinese businessman came to Erda to donate P50,000 (to cover the scholarship for two students), followed by a lady with a check for one student. From across the seas, my two nieces, Louise and Elaine Olivares, daughters of my brother Roger Olivares and his wife Helen Lauder, wrote to say they were raising funds for one student. Dr. Roberta Carreon Romero also sent a check for one student. Thank you all.

I wrote the profiles of four students, and here's a write-up about the last three, two of whom are still without sponsors. Kim Nicole Lauz, 14 and a sophomore, is the eldest of four children of a couple that works as store helpers, earning a combined income of P3,000 monthly. They live with relatives near the school in Sta. Ana, Manila. Kim realizes that training at Erda Tech is his best chance to improve his family's life, so he plans to specialize in automotive servicing.

Another sophomore is Jerica Ester Reondanga, 13, the youngest of five children of a widow doing laundry jobs. Jerica's older brothers and sisters are able to help a little. The family also receives a monthly pension of P1,000 from the GSIS. But all this is not enough. She wants to specialize in computer education one of the training courses offered at Erda Tech.

Ken Lorie Devera, 13, also a second-year student, is one of five children of a widow who tries to make a living by helping out irregularly at a canteen and accepting laundry jobs. They live with relatives. He wants to finish his training course so he can help his mother.

Call Erda Tech at 564-2608 or 564-1774.

Why boys behave badly

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

PRESSURED into joining a "truth-or-dare" kissing game, a 13-year-old expressed regrets about the experience, saying: "It was a big rip-off, a disappointment because it really didn't mean anything. In a way, that's just like being rude to myself."

Is the regretful early teen a sheltered *Pinay colegiala*, who knows next to nothing about sex or relationships? Actually, the speaker is a 13-year-old boy in the United States, interviewed as part of a six-year study on adolescent sexuality conducted by Deborah Tolman, director of the Center for Research on Gender and Sexuality at the San Francisco State University.

The study's main findings, discussed in this space yesterday, were contained in an article by Andrea Kott published in the Summer 2004 issue of "Ford Foundation Report." Tolman's study was funded by the Ford Foundation.

Working from findings of an earlier research project on teenage girls' sexual behavior, Tolman decided to broaden this study to investigate "conventional expectations of masculinity and how they affect both adolescent male and female sexuality." She interviewed 244 boys and girls in a city in the northeastern part of the US, drawing her main conclusions from in-depth interviews with 25 boys, ages 13 to 15, whom she followed at two-year intervals from the 8th to 12th grades (findings from the later interviews were not yet available).

The interviews with the young men yielded not a few surprises for Tolman, who said she was "particularly surprised by the discomfort, even shame, some boys said they felt after having a superficial physical or sexual relationship with a girl."

* * *

MOST of the boys, the study found, "lamented the constant pressure to demonstrate their masculinity and heterosexuality while masking any hint of sensitivity or emotion."

Tolman says the relentless pressure often drives boys into what she calls a "quicksand of practices" to prove "they want and are prowling for sex." For many, this takes the form of having a girlfriend, for as one 14-year-old said, it shows people "that you are macho or more of a man." Others take it a step further and engage in public displays of sexuality, like kissing their girlfriend in public. James, 14, said that when he did that, his friends exclaimed: "We saw you kissing. You're the man!"

A common response to such peer pressure, Tolman found, was "to be aggressive toward girls." Boo, 13, was just one of several boys who sa id that "being masculine meant controlling their relationship with a girl." Added Boo: "Like, they tell her what to do, or how to dress or like who she can hang around with." At the same time, boys are not supposed to display any emotion or weakness. "They're not supposed to be sensitive or... open with their problems."

The big fear is that by showing weakness, a boy would be labeled gay. "Acting aggressively or even violently toward girls is their way of combating that risk," said Tolman.

* * *

AGGRESSIVE, even abusive behavior on the boys' part triggers corresponding "protective" behavior in adolescent girls, Tolman found.

The girls "armor" themselves by mistrusting boys and maintaining emotional distance. For instance, some girls break up with boys prematurely, in anticipation of being pressured for sex. One 13-year-old girl warns boys, "...you can go out with me (but) you have to realize that you're not going to have sex with me. The kissing is going to be done whether I like it, and if I don't like, well then it's off."

This may sound reassuringly like the classic pattern of behavior our parents (and their parents) instilled in us while we were growing up, "communicating a sense of power and control," says Tolman, but she notes "a more subtle dynamic." The girl's stance, she explains, "leaves little room for her own feelings, and she may end up thwarting a boy's attempt to establish a genuine emotional connection."

Tolman told Kott she hopes her research "will encourage parents, community leaders and educators to counter the negative aspects of conventional notions of masculinity and femininity."

Tolman has also worked with MTV to develop a short series called "Busting the Double Standard" that examines gender stereotypes and imparts information on sexual health. Promoting more equitable perspectives will, she believes, "help adolescents develop the confidence to make healthy choices about sexuality and to form relationships based on trust, sensitivity and respect."

* * *

I'M SURE Filipino parents, reading the results of Tolman's study, would be shocked by—or skeptical of—the young respondents' statements. This is the US, after all, a country whose people, but especially young people, many Filipinos believe are more liberal in their attitudes toward sex and more sexually promiscuous.

But I would bet that if a similar study were conducted here, much the same findings would emerge. The search for identity and intimacy during adolescence is universal, as is the anxiety to conform and to be accepted and to be liked. If anything, the pressure to assert one's "macho-hood" by disrespecting women is even more intense here.

Perhaps more than "Just say no" messages, we should be sending out "counter-messages" on what it really means to be a man and a woman to our young people. What messages do they currently receive from their parents, elders, teachers, friends and the media? What sort of male and female role models are available to them in their families, schools, government and in movies, TV shows, soap operas, and even music videos?

Are we doing enough not just to protect young people from risky sexual behavior, but also to educate them about healthy sexuality? Just saying "no" won't do these days, and neither would wearing a scapular.

Visayas in the 18th century

SENSE AND SENSIBILITY

Bambi L. Harper

SOME 120 years ago, the only *intendente* in the Visayan Islands was D. Pedro Vertiz who was based in Cebu. Through the Secretary of State, Sr. D.F. Antonio Valdes (complete title: Secretario de Estado y del Despacho Universal de Guerra, Comercio y Navegacion de Indias, Excmo. Sr. D.), he sent Carlos III a report on the state of the Visayas, dated Dec. 31, 1788.

The Visayans, even before the coming of the Spaniards, had endured great oppressions from constant attacks by Moro pirates from Mindanao and Jolo. People lived in constant fear of an assault. The dread of these pirate raids moved many to seek refuge in the mountains far from the coasts, living like savages, abandoning their houses and their fields. In the process, the government lost tributes and heaven many souls since they forgot the true religion.

Starting in 1752, the Moros of Mindanao and Jolo joined forces and flooded the archipelago with their armadas. Catching the Visayans off guard, they inflicted cruel damage on them. Every year, the Moros would return to their lands loaded with captives of both sexes. Some they would force to marry to populate their dominions, others they would utilize as slaves or sell as slaves to other Moros in Borneo and the islands of Malabar, as well to Chinese merchants who lived in the old Batavia.

The situation made Vertiz think of reestablishing the armada of Pintados that had been formed for security reasons but had been discontinued on account of the expense and because peace had prevailed for some years. Mindoro had 29 settlements in 1752, but after repeated raids their number was down to two towns. Masbate was down to 250 tributes, Ticao only 80; the islands of Burias, Sibuyan, Tablas, Botoncillo, Sigmara, Cobrador, Maestre de Campo and others were completely deserted.

In 1762, in view of the increasing attacks, the armada of Pintados was reestablished to perform the same service that it carried out in the first half of the 18th century.

But that wasn't the only problems the Visayans had. The position of *alcalde mayores* only seemed to attract unemployed men with no money and no other means of sustenance. They were more interested in what they could get and indulged in all sorts of commerce, to the great prejudice of the people.

One of the reasons for the abuse of the mayors was the lack of control from Manila. There was no inspection and consequently no accounting, giving rise to much abuse. The distance and the difficulties of the journey from Manila to the Visayas facilitated the abuses. And the people had no one to complain to.

Occasionally the *cabezas de barangay* discharged the functions of the mayors. They were exempt from payment of tribute and were in charge of collecting taxes from 50 heads of families. Their exercise of authority was almost tyrannical. They would use the people as servants in return for tribute. The people would be made to work their fields and whatever other jobs the *cabezas* dictated.

To work their own fields, those who paid tribute still had to ask permission from the *cabeza* but were only allowed to do so if they remitted part of their harvest to him. If they needed to be absent, they had to pay for it. They also had to pay fines and were whipped when they committed mistakes.

They were the only participants in the continuous division of labor that was needed by the priest and the Church, the house of the *alcalde mayor*, local *alcaldes* and ministers of justice. They had to serve in public jails of the province and do public works, as well as do day or night duty in the many watch towers located on the beaches in order to warn the people when they saw the Moros coming.

The problems of the Visayas were aggravated by the distance to Manila. Vertiz felt it was necessary to create a new government in the Visayas in order to govern them properly. (Turns out recent initiatives in the direction of federalization isn't a new idea after all.) In the process of establishing this new government, Cebu would have to be supported by sending yearly from Panay all the needed unhusked rice and salted or dried meats for the storerooms and provisions for the troops since it was the most sterile of all the islands of the archipelago producing almost nothing.

Verti felt it would be more advantageous to establish the Visayan seat of government on the island of Panay. It was the most fertile, the best populated and the rice granary, providing rice not just for the garrisons but the other islands as well. Meat was abundant there, and a cow was worth only eight *reales* and sheep four *reales*.

The bishop of Cebu could also transfer to Iloilo, which would be the capital of the region. It had a secure port and good armaments against the Moro pirates. It would be necessary to construct a fort with its own *plaza de armas*, storerooms of magazines and quarters for the troops. The fort could house the residence of the governor and a decent church or chapel.

Vertiz was partial to opening the oriental commerce to the Visayas following the same formula as Manila's. He felt the prohibition of commerce with China and the other Southeast Asian countries was the principal cause of its economic retardation.

Needless to say, he was the last *intendente* and forthwith the position was dissolved. Even then, Manila didn't think much of decentralization.

Now we wonder what would have happened if Vertiz's suggestion had been followed.

(*Antonio Garcia-Abasolo, "España y el Pacifico."*)

'Katulong?'

YOUNG BLOOD

Chryseis Vivienne Santos

We want to know what the young are thinking about. What are their thoughts on current issues? We welcome contributions from the twentysomething and below.—**Ed.**

I HATE the fact that the Philippines has been reduced to such penury. It's so irritating that the common *tao* must "live simply or simply leave" in order to survive (there's no other word for it, we really just survive), when our elected officials don't even understand the meaning of the word "save" and live such extravagant lifestyles.

Please don't tell me that they are living like us, normal folks, because they don't. They are driven around in their giant gas-guzzling 4x4s, followed by a convoy of top-of-the-line sedans. They eat at the swankiest hotels and restaurants (and let the common *tao* foot the bill; I bet my *atay* that they charge that to the government). They fly to the United States whenever they feel like doing so and stay at their multi-million-dollar mansions in the heart of Beverly Hills. (Don't tell me that they inherited their wealth. I'd first believe that Martians walk the earth than believe that crap.) Ghad! Not even the rich *tao* living in Ayala Alabang can sustain that kind of life!

Grrr!!! And now they want us to tighten our belts and bear with perpetually increasing oil prices, the weakening peso, higher taxes, and other "save the Philippines from the fiscal debt" measures that do not—will not and will never—help the Filipino people.

I have a stupid question. Why should we, the *tao*, shoulder all this? Were we the ones who frittered away billions and billions of dollars on bogus projects and disastrous investments? Were we the ones who kept getting loans from the World Bank? Were we the ones who lived such enviable lifestyles?

As far as I know, I was either in school, studying or working my butt off and paying my taxes (like many others in this country) when all these things happened. I know that I got a "3" in Philo, and maybe that is the reason I cannot grasp the logic of it all. Why should we suffer for their ineptitude? Why should we be the ones to carry the burden? Haven't we suffered enough? Aren't we suffering enough? Do our elected officials want to bleed us dry and leave us to the dogs while they dance and party the nights away?

This is useless. Ranting and raving about our inefficient and hopelessly corrupt government will not achieve anything. Reading people's complaints will **not** make them change. Nothing will. Corruption has already become so ingrained in their system it would take nothing short of a miracle to make these monsters come to terms with what they really are: public servants.

Yes, my dear friends, I would like to remind everyone that our wonderfully corrupt and *ganid* officials are nothing but servants. And get this, they are not just any kind of servant, they are our servants. Remember that, among other things:

1. We put them where they are now; they have our votes to thank for that.

2. We pay taxes, and our taxes pay for their salaries—the same "salaries" they use to buy their 4x4s and their mansions and to pay for their children's education, their clothes, even that cute little high-tech cellular phone.

Hmmm. If that's the case, then our public officials are nothing but glorified *katulong*!

A brief refresher course:

What is a *katulong*?

Katulong is a term used for people we employ to help around the house, thus the English terms "house help" or "helper."

Why do we keep *katulong*?

They are necessary to help make our lives easier. They help clean the house, throw out the garbage, cook our meals, do the laundry. We trust them to watch over and take care of our belongings when we are away.

What do the *katulong* get in return?

Aside from paying for their services, we welcome them into our homes. They eat the same food we do. We take care of them. And we treat them like family.

I guess the relationship of the government and the people started out that way. Then we became lax. We relied too much on our helpers (in government) and started to turn a blind eye on their little errors and petty thievery. We thought, "No one will notice the clogged drain pipe" or "I didn't like that pearl earring anyway." We kept making excuses for them until they became more brazen. *Ngayon ang katulong ang nagmamando sa bahay*. Now these help are acting like they were the masters of the house.

I hope that we all remember our places in this world. We, the lowly *tao*, are the homeowners. We till the soil and work. And while we're working, we leave the overall management of the house to our government officials—our *katulong* or helpers. We should help each other and work together toward making our home more beautiful and secure.

The key words are "help" and "work together." It's a give-and-take relationship. We help each other out. They help make the Philippines a better place for the Filipinos (them included) and we help them make a living. They serve us, and we pay for their services. Sounds like a good deal.

Unfortunately for us, we pay their salaries and take care of them, but we don't get any service in return. Guess who's getting the short end of the stick.

Some *katulong* we have!

Chryseis Vivienne Santos, 29, works for an international business organization based in Makati.

THEY SAID

Arrogant

"Which Citibank has UP (University of the Philippines) been dealing with—the noble institution of the website, or the arrogant, overstaying master who still thinks he can do as he pleases with the poor natives. I hope that its present country head, Mr. James Hunt, helps us make up our minds."

—Rep. Lorenzo Tañada III on the bank's refusal to pay UP the fair market value of the Forbes Park property where its country head resides

Incomparable

"It is like comparing the character of a vestal virgin to the character of a serial rapist."

—Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago on former President Fidel Ramos' counter-attack to the senator's accusations

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Cruel, unreasonable SSS

MY property (house and lot) was foreclosed by the Social Security System and auctioned off on April 19, 2002. Although my 70-year-old feet could hardly carry me, I managed to get to the 5th floor of the SSS building in Quezon City and make a bid at P80,000. The purchase price was P182,600.

Since no sale was made that day, a second auction was held in August 2002. Again, I made an appeal to the SSS to let me redeem the property at a lower price, citing, among others, my difficulties in raising the needed amount.

I cannot recall the exact order of events, but, at one time, Tomas Ramirez, officer in charge, visited me in my house. Seeing, perhaps, my household's dire situation, he softened the SSS conditions/requirements and verbally offered me a chance to re-acquire the property by installment within a 10-year period.

And so on May 27, 2002, I started paying my arrears and other liabilities. On Jan. 6, 2004, I received a letter from Simplicia Baniago, branch head, informing me of my obligations in the purchase of my property. I went to Tarlac twice and there I was told to pay P36,520 representing the 20-percent deposit on the price of the property. At the same time, I was asked to execute an affidavit of monthly income.

On July 26, 2004, I went back to Tarlac to comply with this directive. The SSS accepted the payment of P41,547, but rejected my affidavit for lack of proof of employment—mine and my sons' (they pledged to support me in this particular endeavor). On Aug. 8, 2004, I went to Tarlac to submit another affidavit and pay another P7,414 representing back and future rentals of the property. It was, of course, my wish that after going through untold sacrifices, my request would finally be granted. But again, I was disappointed. The SSS accepted my additional payment, but rejected my new affidavit for lack of proof of regular employment and income. I had made it clear to the SSS people from the start that nobody in the family is regularly employed. We earn on short, temporary labor contracts and from selling local delicacies in the streets. But they ignored my explanation.

Now we see how cruel and unreasonable the SSS is. Despite the poverty and deprivation in my family, I was able to remit to them the following payments:

P1,000—for two months advance rentals

P8,172—back rentals

P18,260—10 percent of the purchase price

P41,547—20 percent of the purchase price

P7,414—back and future rentals

Still they refuse to recognize me as a legitimate buyer of the property. I'm losing my faith in the SSS. Under the system, the right to redeem or purchase a foreclosed property may not be exercised by a person who is not regularly employed. Sorry *na lang ang mga dukhang katulad ko*. (Pity the hapless, struggling poor like me.)

—EDMUNDO CADAG,
4648 Yellowball St.,
Barangay Village, Dau,
Mabalacat, Pampanga

Illusory savings

WE refer to Pete Ilagan's letter (PDI, 9/06/04).

The basic issue is the true cost of power to Meralco and the comparative pricing between power sourced from the National Power Corp. and from Meralco's independent power producers (IPPs). Among these IPPs is First Gas. Electricity sourced from this IPP is a special concern of consumers; rightly so, since it is a Meralco-affiliated company.

Mr. Ilagan says that NPC's rates are lower than the price at which Meralco buys power from First Gas. The comparison is unfair: it is inaccurate to compare an artificially capped rate with the price of First Gas. The consumer ultimately pays the difference between the true cost and the artificial cost through taxes. The savings from the artificial rate is therefore illusory. Even its impact on the poor is illusory—the "savings" in the short run benefit more the high consumption and industrial/commercial customers.

Secondly, Mr. Ilagan's comparison between Meralco's residential rate as against those of the distribution utilities (DUs) in parts of Luzon is also based on NPC's artificial price—these DUs source power solely from the NPC. With the recent NPC increase, their rates will go up by about P1.23/kWh; for consumption levels of about 100kWh monthly (which represent the majority of customers of these DUs), Meralco's rates will still be lower.

Lastly, Mr. Ilagan's assertion that Meralco "walked away" from its agreement with the NPC is not true. The NPC-Meralco settlement agreement was reached through mediation, an alternative to a court case or arbitration which would have made a negative impact on the country's investment climate. The agreement is now under scrutiny by the Energy Regulatory Commission. I do not wish to pre-empt its findings.

Meralco is aware that the provision of electricity is a service. But it is also a business that by law is entitled to a reasonable rate of return. This is needed to ensure system reliability and operational viability. Mr. Ilagan will surely understand this when he is already involved in the electricity supply business.

When Meralco's profits from 1994-2002 were totally wiped out by a Supreme Court decision that changed the regulatory rules retroactively, there could not have been a reasonable rate of return. When Meralco's provisional rate increase of 12 centavos per kWh is subjected to a status quo order for reasons of incomplete publication when all parties had the full opportunity to be heard, that seems to be carrying procedural due process to the extreme. So is the case when the rate approved by the ERC, combining Meralco's petition for unbundling in 2001 with the petition for a rate adjustment in 2000 (contrary to Ilagan's claim that it was only an unbundling exercise), is annulled by a court decision that overlooks a factual event such as a COA examination.

—ELPI O. CUNA JR.,
vice president and
director corporate communication,
Meralco, Ortigas,
Pasig City

Not connected with RPN-9 since 2001

PLEASE allow us to correct your news item on former newscaster Richard Rivera who has been implicated in a P1-million extortion try. (PDI, 8/26/04)

For the record, Rivera was dropped from the pool of RPN-9's network talent reporters in May 2001—not before the recent May 2004 elections, as reported in your paper—because of his numerous absences.

He has not been in any way connected with RPN-9 News and Public Affairs since then, and certainly not a year or months before the May 2004 elections.

We certainly hope you could provide a small but prominent space for this clarification in the best interest of our network.

—DODY P. LACUNA,
manager, news and public affairs,
RPN 9 Broadcast City, Capitol Hills,
Diliman, Quezon City

FVR's successes and controversial deals

FORMER PRESIDENT Fidel V. Ramos takes pride, and justifiably so, that his administration overcame the power crisis and converted the national shame that was the Smokey Mountain into an award-winning development showcase.

We wholeheartedly commend his administration for its decisiveness and eventual successes.

On the other hand, we cannot disregard the costs of inept contract negotiations with independent power producers—to the treasury, the consumers and the economy.

Neither can we gloss over the seemingly special accommodation extended to the Smokey Mountain developer, RII. Under the misleading "at no cost to government" concept, the developer ended up with "rights" to large tracts of public land, plus cash and debt instruments—not to mention a backdoor franchise to a lucrative port business.

The core objective of the original Smokey Mountain sanitary garbage disposal project was lost in the shuffle. (The project was conceived primarily to properly dispose garbage; to render the site habitable; and to erect and operate a supposedly energy-converting incinerator utilizing garbage as fuel.)

Ramos fends off Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago's remarks by citing her purported role that eventually made possible the government-RII deal.

I believe the public would prefer to hear Ramos addressing the basic issues raised by Santiago. Whatever Santiago's role in the other reclamation awards has no bearing on the basic issues surrounding the Smokey Mountain RII contract.

—ALFREDO V. ASUNCION,
93 Castrillo St., Ugong Norte,
Quezon City

Immediate NLE extension to La Union urged

THIS refers to the newly widened and repaved North Luzon Expressway. Should we not be likewise concerned about its extension, at least, up to Rosario, La Union?

It has been more than a decade since the expressway was last extended to Sta. Ines in Pampanga. What is delaying the extension? Is it true that some big business interests in Tarlac are not supportive of the project, giving credence to the June 2004 Wallace Report observation that "politics-vested interest vs. national good" is the main reason why we have stagnated?

The unreasonable delay of a basic infrastructure, like the extension of the NLE, is without doubt holding back the economic development northward.

MacArthur Highway has become very dangerously narrow because of the vastly increased traffic. At a glance, it is hazardously overcrowded. Tricycles, cars, buses and big trucks compete for the long, two-lane road stretches. Vehicles on opposite lanes almost scrape each other as they move through the road.

There is absolutely no reason why the extension project should not be pursued now.

—SERGIO T. ESPINOLA,
Mapua Institute of Technology,
Intramuros, Manila

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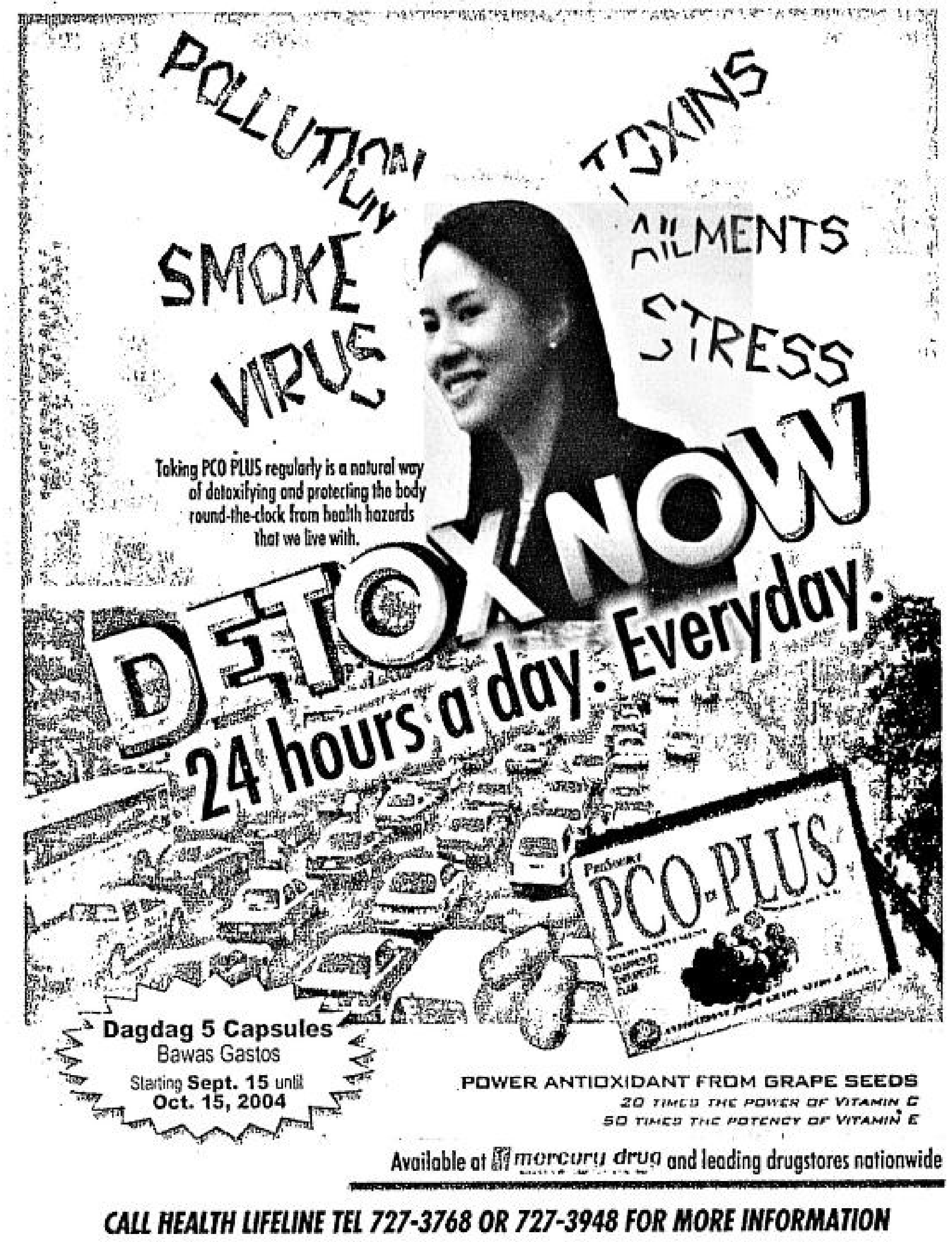
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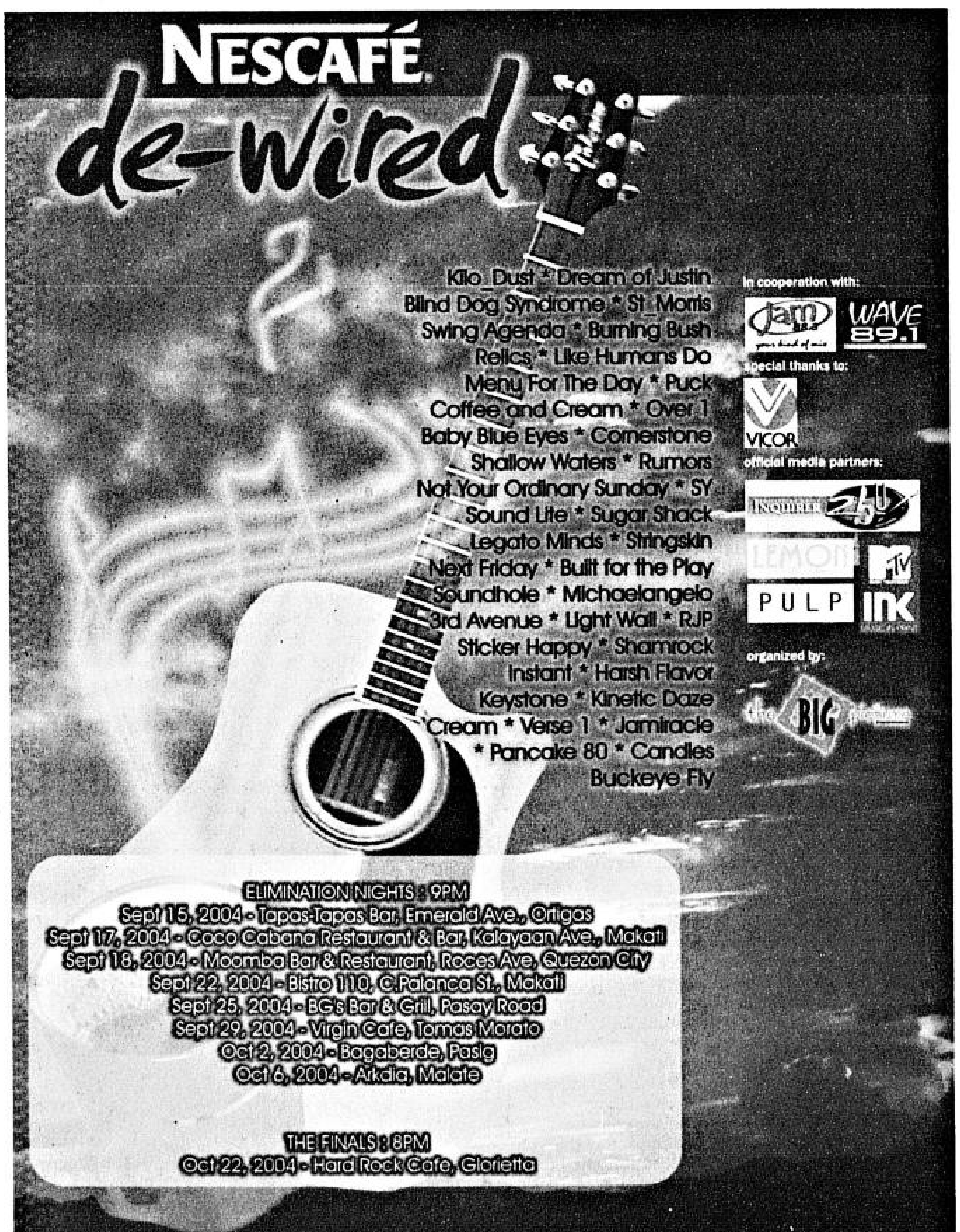
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Balweg army distances self from assassins

BAGUIO CITY—An armed component of the Cordillera People's Liberation Army (CPLA) identified with its founder, slain rebel priest Conrado Balweg, has distanced its troops from the "assassins" allegedly hired by political leaders to terrorize Abra.

Miguel Sugguyiao, CPLA chief of staff, said Balweg's supporters have not been contracted to handle security detail for any politician even after their leader was assassinated in his Abra hometown in December 1999.

He made the clarification after militia leaders gave President Macapagal-Arroyo until Sept. 13 to pursue the government's commitments to the 1987 Mount Data peace agreement that was signed by Balweg and former President Corazon Aquino.

"If the government remains cavalier about the CPLA, then we will break the peace pact and resume our situation before the peace talks," he said.

Sugguyiao said the INQUIRER exposé on private armies in Abra could prompt law enforcers to include the militia among private armed groups that they would soon target because of their Sept. 5 ultimatum to Ms Arroyo.

The Cordillera Regional Peace and Order Council in August ordered an investigation of political armed groups in the province, said Rodolfo Santos Jr., Cordillera director of the National Police Commission and head of the RPOC secretariat.

Both the police and the military had been emphatic about the local government's unusual tolerance for armed troops like the CPLA, Santos said.

"When the government integrated the CPLA, it was on the condition that the organization would dissolve, but the military had been concerned about recent reports that it continued to recruit. They were on top of our list," he said.

Most of these new military integrees belong to the CPLA faction that calls itself the Unified CPLA composed of the followers of Bucloc (Abra) Mayor Mailed Molina and Balweg's widow, Corazon.

Sugguyiao and Balweg's elder brother, Bienvenido, a Benguet State University professor, refused to join this group.

But Santos said "all officials in Abra are accountable for the presence of armed groups there."

"It was the Northern Luzon Command which was very candid about these concerns in Abra," he said.

Members of the assassins' group had confessed to the INQUIRER their roles in several murders in Abra, most of the killings political in nature.

Some of the hired killers are barely in their teens when they started to perform jobs for the killers' group. *Vincent Cabreza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

THE BARREL of the gun sticks out of a community in Abra where firepower equals fat wallets.

EV ESPIRITU/PDI NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU

Hacienda guards sued for slaying of farmer

By Carla P. Gomez
PDI Visayas Bureau

BACOLOD CITY—Murder and attempted charges were filed against four security guards of a disputed sugar plantation in La Castellana town for the killing of a woman farmer on Friday.

The criminal complaint against Benjie Villanueva, Jo Al Olivares, Felipe Puntal and Johnny Baluarte, all of the Tuguis Security Agency, were filed by police Monday at the La Castellana Municipal Trial Court.

The four, who were assigned to the disputed property of GV and Sons in Hacienda Conchita Villanueva, Barangay Sag-ang, La Castellana, were accused of shooting to death Teresa Mameng, 60, a member of the farmers' group Task Force Mapalad.

Task Force Mapalad had been helping 45 farmers-beneficiaries of the agrarian reform program obtain ownership of parcels of lands inside the Hacienda Conchita that was awarded to them by the DAR.

On June 11, Agrarian Undersecretary Rolando Mangulabnan installed 45 holders of the Certificate of Land Ownership Award associated with TFM in Hacienda Conchita Villanueva, despite strong objections from the landowner, Mario Villanueva, whose case questioning the placement of his property under land reform coverage remained pending in court.

Mameng, according to police records, was killed in a cornfield behind her house while fleeing from a volley of shots allegedly fired by the security guards. She suffered gunshot wounds in the back and chest.

Insp. Regidor Alvarado, La Castellana police chief, said the four 12-gauge shotguns surrendered by the four security guards had been subjected to ballistic tests.

Isabela judge suspended for 4 months without pay for extortion

By Villamor Visaya Jr.
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

SANTIAGO CITY—For trying to extort money from a complainant in exchange for a favorable decision, a judge here was suspended for four months without salary, allowances and other benefits.

In a decision dated Sept. 8, the Supreme Court's second division suspended Judge Maxwel Rosete, presiding judge of the Municipal Trial Court in Cities (MTCC) here, for sending his staff to show copies of his draft decision to complainant Lucila Tan and asking P150,000 from her so the case pending at his sala would not be dismissed.

Associate Justice Reynato Puno, who penned the decision, said Rosete's act of meeting with litigants outside the office premises beyond office hours constituted gross misconduct.

"We have repeatedly admonished our judges to adhere to the highest tenets of judicial conduct . . . When the judge himself becomes the transgressor of any law . . . he places his office in disrepute . . ." Puno said.

"It is, therefore, paramount that a judge's personal behavior . . . be free from any appearance of impropriety as to be beyond reproach."

On July 29, the SC ordered Rosete, former acting judge at the Metropolitan Trial Court in San Juan in Metro Manila, to pay P5,000 for suppressing information and for dishonesty.

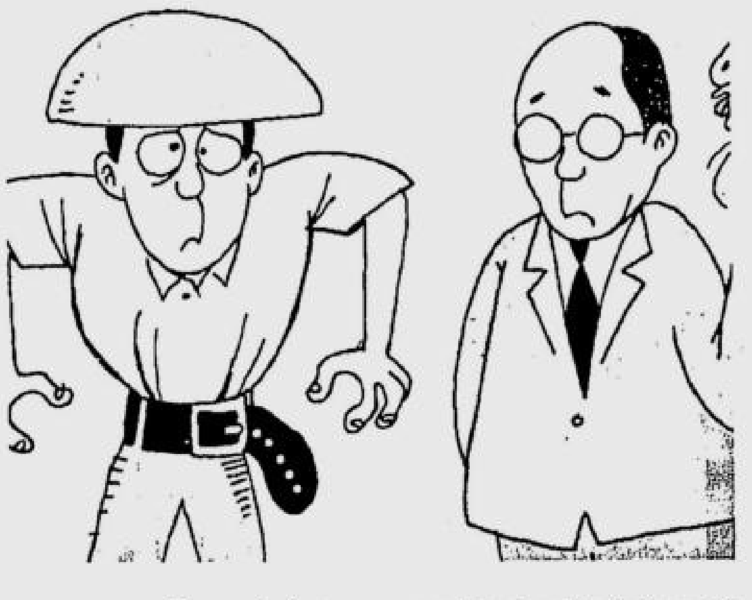
Deal

Tan, who had two pending criminal cases in 2000 in San Juan, Metro Manila where Rosete was then judge, said in her complaint that Rosete's staff had told her to give P150,000 in exchange for the non-dismissal of her cases.

She said Rosete's staff allowed her to keep a copy of a draft decision on one of her criminal cases.

Rosete, however, denied Tan's claims.

Workers told: Don't eat snack to ease crisis



DAVAO CITY—Businessmen in the city have urged their workers to tighten their belts and forget about snacks for a while to cope with rising prices of goods and commodities.

But militant groups said workers and their families have long forgotten about snacks.

The Kilusang Mayo Uno said workers could not even provide their dependents three meals a day because their salaries could no longer cope with increases in prices of basic goods.

Sofronio Jucutan, president of the Davao Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI), said workers should learn to cope with increasing prices of goods by eating only three times a day.

"We've been advised by doctors to eat less because it's more healthful to the body," he told reporters here. "Let's learn to eat less and demand less from companies which might no longer be able to bear an additional increase in workers' wages."

Jucutan said workers should understand that a meager pay is much better than being jobless.

"We have to tighten our belts because once companies close in Mindanao, there will no longer be enough belts to tighten," he said.

Omar Bantayan, KMU secretary general for Southern Mindanao, said it's been a long time since workers started eating two times a day.

Better than jobless

Bantayan said companies close shop not because of wage hikes but because of their inability to compete in the global market and the government's rush to liberalize trade despite knowing that local industries are not ready for it.

He said the proposed P125 wage increase is not even enough to buy the daily needs of the workers' families.

"We're only demanding what is right for the workers, just and reasonable wages is a basic human right," he said.

Antonio Santos, chair of the Mindanao Busienss Council (MBC), said business firms in Mindanao are willing to increase the workers' wages up to P20 this year but only after the wage increases go through the wage board.

"We are trying our best to bear it," Jucutan said. "I don't blame the workers for asking for a wage increase. I understand their plight."

But he warned that small and medium companies can only bear so much, or else, their businesses might close. *Germelina Lacorte, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

ROUNDUP

Quezon fire kills 3 children

LUCENA CITY—Three siblings were burned to death in Barangay Hinguiwin, Padre Burgos, Quezon when their hut caught fire on Sunday. A police report identified the victims as Melissa Ilog, 9, and her brothers John Frances, 4, and Randolf, 3. Investigators said the parents of the victims, Reynaldo and Imelda Ilog, left their seven children at around 8 p.m. to watch television in the neighbor's house, some 100 meters away. The eldest child, Zairen Joy, was awakened by the heat and saw their house burning. She tried to save all her siblings from the fire but managed to rescue only three. The police said a fallen improvised gas lamp started the blaze.

Delfin Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Fire razes church, P5-M property

CITY OF CALAPAN—Fire allegedly caused by faulty electrical wiring burned the United Evangelical Church in this city's central area at past 9 p.m., Sunday and damaged P5 million worth of property. Senior fire officer Chief Insp. Ismael Lopez said the fire that lasted for more than an hour, started from a boarding house. The Rotary Club of Calapan, Chinese Chamber of Commerce, Victoria and Naujan police stations and water tankers came to the rescue as the city's Bureau of Fire's truck was not functioning.

Madonna Virola, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

2 teeners drown in river

BAGUIO CITY—Two teenagers drowned while swimming near the Bued River on Kennon Road on Monday. Fidel Inisan and Mark Chong, both 18, of Upper Pinget here, drowned at the old mini-hydroelectric plant at Camp 6. They were with five friends when they decided to swim, according to the Office of Civil Defense. The sudden rains at upstream Baguio caused the river to swell and the strong current carried the two boys. Inisan's body was found 100 meters away while Chong's body was recovered on Tuesday.

Frank Cimatu, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

Ex-rebel killed in Batangas

CALATAGAN, Batangas—A rebel returnee was found dead with multiple bullet wounds inside a hut in Sitio Cuadrado, Barangay Balibago here Monday. Victim Ariel Magno, 36, a farmer who used to be a member of the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army (CPP-NPA), was killed after he was shot with a .45 cal. pistol. Police said Magno was sleeping inside the hut owned by his friend, Juan Garcia, when three unidentified armed men arrived and shot him. Police found five bullet shells, a slug and a live bullet of .45 cal. pistol at the crime scene.

Mei Magsino, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

3 robbers kill, take P100,000

CEBU CITY—Three robbers aboard a motorcycle fled with about P100,000 after killing one of their victims in Mandaue City on Tuesday. Joevita Dearoz, 31, died after she was shot in the head by one of the robbers when she tried to run away with her handbag containing the money earned from her lending business. Her husband Restituto, 42 and son Raymart, 4, were unharmed. The Dearoz family, who were riding a bicycle, were waylaid at about 7:45 a.m. in Zone Gani, Barangay Paknaan, about 100 meters from their house. PO3 Wynne Ompad of Mandaue police precinct 5, said some bystanders tried to help the victims but the suspects fired at them. One of the bystanders, Cirilo Rafaela, 30, was slightly wounded in the left arm.

Jhunnex Napallacan, PDI Visayas Bureau

Abra town cop chief shot dead

BANGUED, Abra—The police chief in Lacub town was shot and killed by a suspected New People's Army rebel in Barangay Poblacion there on Sunday. Police said SPO4 Ernesto Bernal was attacked in Sitio Mamasag while he was on his way to the provincial police headquarters here to attend a briefing. Bernal died of a bullet wound in the chest, reports said.

Artha Kira Paredes, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

2 hurt as cops, tribal folk clash in Vizcaya

BAMBANG, Nueva Vizcaya—A woman and a policeman were shot and hurt on Wednesday when members of a tribal community clashed with the police and a demolition team as they started to dismantle 75 houses in Barangay Santo Domingo here.

Rosa Guiloran, 56, and PO1 Noel Valdez, suffered bullet wounds following a volley of gunfire as 50 men and women, armed with bolos and wooden planks, tried to stop the assault of 20 policemen and demolition team members.

The demolition was in connection with a land dispute between landowner Felix Abesamis Jr. and 500 members of the Kalanguya tribe here, who were reported illegally occupying portions of the 133-hectare property in Sitio Upper Batu.

The Kalanguya members reportedly occupied the Abesamis property, then a former pasture land, in early 1980 and have since established their residence there.

According to Rayden Rey Galapon, a sheriff of the Department of Agrarian Reform, people refused to leave the place despite several notices of eviction from the department.

Accompanied by a team of policemen and Army soldiers in full battle gear, Galapon on Thursday ordered the demolition team to begin the removal of 50 houses in the area.

Senior Insp. Melecio Sagun, who led the police team, said they were approaching the houses when the residents suddenly emerged and moved toward the team.

This prompted the police to fire warning shots, he said. *Melvin Gascon, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

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Left leader comes out

DAVAO CITY—A militant leader in Mindanao charged with rebellion surfaced late Thursday afternoon and even hosted a press conference here, with plainclothes soldiers disguised as journalists for guests among others.

Alvin Luque, former Bayan Muna secretary general for Southern Mindanao, said he wanted to belie reports he was in hiding.

Luque was charged with rebellion at a local court for allegedly providing funds to New People's Army (NPA) rebels in Paquibato District here.

Col. Eduardo del Rosario, who was then commander of the 73rd Infantry Battalion, filed the charges against Luque, whom he also tagged as Commander Venus in the complaint sheet.

Del Rosario now heads the Task Force Davao, an antiterror body formed after two explosions that killed at least 38 people here in 2003.

Anthony Allada, PDI Mindanao Bureau

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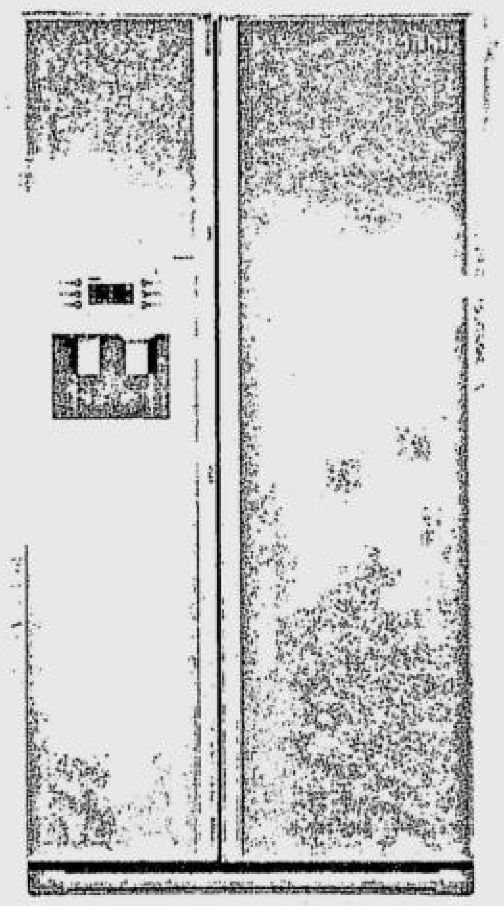

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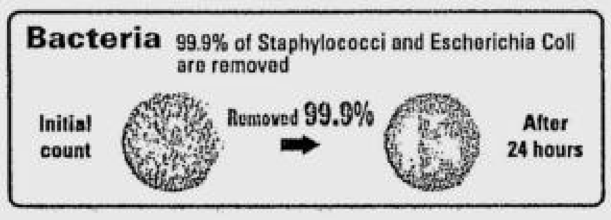
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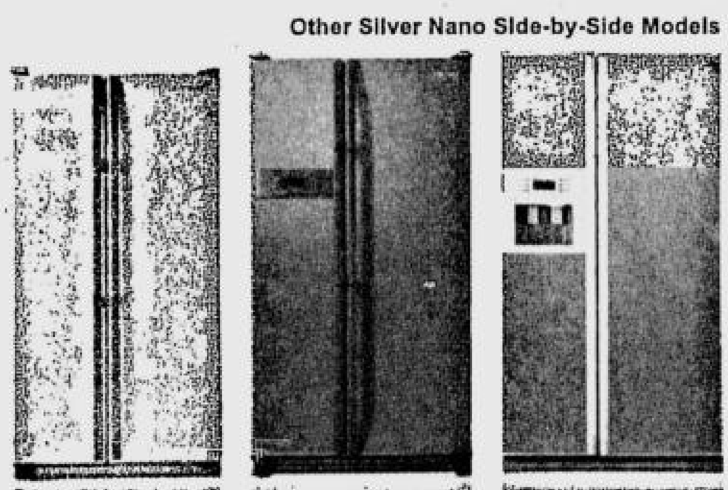

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INQUIRER Visayas

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Celebrating the 'tree of life'

By Vicente S. Labro
Tacloban City

LEGEND has it that the numerous coconut trees now standing in Calubian, Leyte, all came from just one nut found floating in a river by an early inhabitant.

The town now symbolizes the coconut industry in Eastern Visayas, the country's third largest coconut-producing region. Its name is derived from "*lubi*," the Bisayan word for coconut.

Calubian's people always pay homage to the "tree of life" during their fiesta in the middle of August. It is also during the last week of that month when Coconut Week is celebrated in the country.

This year, a festive atmosphere pervaded the progressive coastal town, about 180 km from Tacloban City, in the northern part of Leyte Island.

On the night of Aug. 14, the Ms Lubi-Lubi 2004 was crowned in a pageant. Earlier that day, Leyte Rep. Edward Veloso and Mayor Hazel Po led other town officials in the inauguration of the P86-million Calubian port.

The next day, the town was alive with shouts and drumbeats from four contingents competing during the Lubi-lubi Festival.

But the highlight of the celebration was the golden anniversary of the parish of the Our Lady of Fatima, with the pontifical concelebrated Mass attended by four bishops and about 50 priests. Señor San Roque has been the town's patron saint ever since the place was known as Eulalia, a barrio of the nearby town of Leyte, Leyte.

Bright prospects

The people in Calubian and in other parts of the region have a lot to thank God for this year. The price of copra has remained high, and the prospects of coconut virgin oil and coco-diesel as commercial products are bright.

Copra price fell to as low as below P2 last year and many people in the region had thought it was not worth the effort to make copra. Late last year, however, the price slowly rose and in January, a better year for the coconut farmers was already apparent.

Eastern Visayas has a total of 1.3 million coconut farm workers and 360,000 coconut farmer-landowners, according to Edilberto Nierva, general manager of the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) for the region.

Nierva said that with the current high price of copra, the farmers and their families could cope better with the economic crunch besetting the country. Farmgate price of copra is now P18 to P19.

Export gains

During the first six months, export sales of coconut-derived products (cochin, low color oil, copra cake, crude coconut oil and refined bleached coconut oil) from Eastern Visayas reached $16.64 million. Seventy-four percent, or 27,869 metric tons, of the products went to Japan.

Last year, the region sold 188,853 MT of coconut-derived products worth $36.996 million abroad. Japan bought $18.605 million worth; Malaysia, $6.008 million; China, $5.321 million; European countries, $3.844 million; Indonesia, $1.866 million; and the United States, $1.350 million.

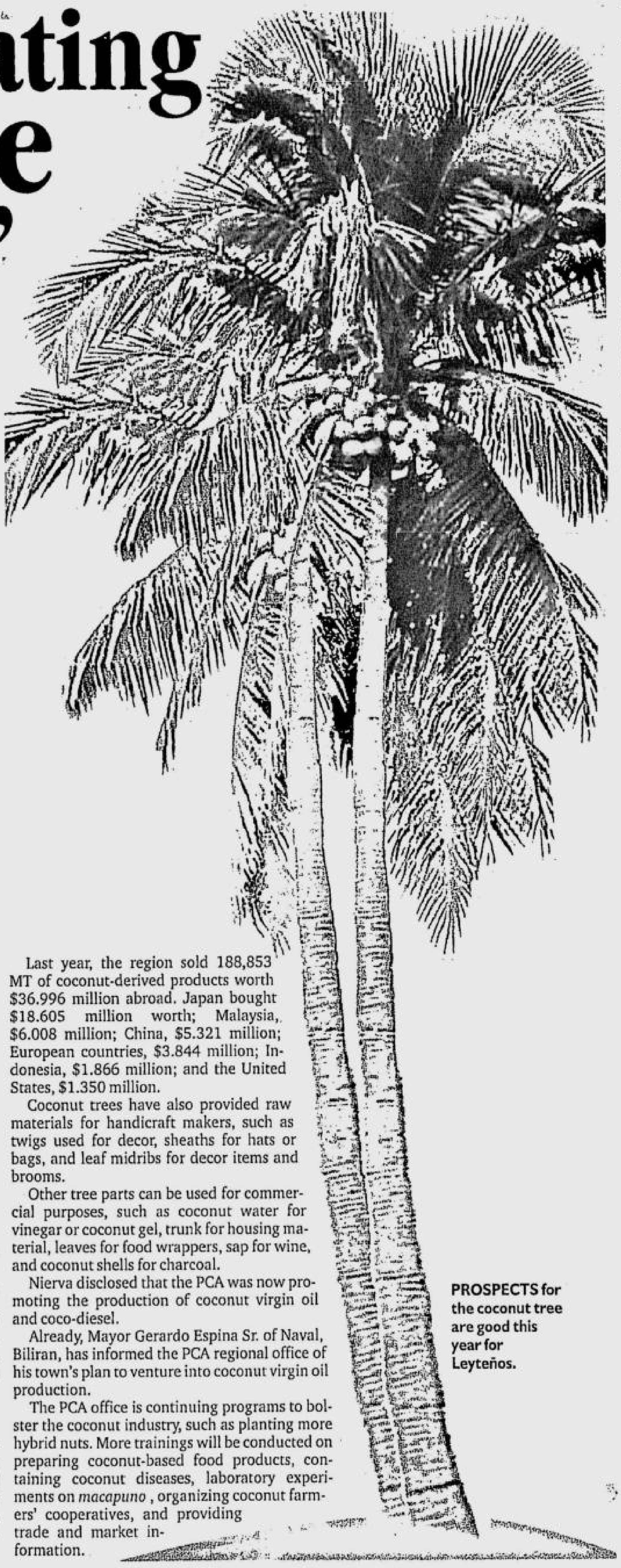
Coconut trees have also provided raw materials for handicraft makers, such as twigs used for decor, sheaths for hats or bags, and leaf midribs for decor items and brooms.

Other tree parts can be used for commercial purposes, such as coconut water for vinegar or coconut gel, trunk for housing material, leaves for food wrappers, sap for wine, and coconut shells for charcoal.

Nierva disclosed that the PCA was now promoting the production of coconut virgin oil and coco-diesel.

Already, Mayor Gerardo Espina Sr. of Naval, Biliran, has informed the PCA regional office of his town's plan to venture into coconut virgin oil production.

The PCA office is continuing programs to bolster the coconut industry, such as planting more hybrid nuts. More trainings will be conducted on preparing coconut-based food products, containing coconut diseases, laboratory experiments on *macapuno* , organizing coconut farmers' cooperatives, and providing trade and market information.



PROSPECTS for the coconut tree are good this year for Leyteños.

Patterns of neglect remain in Leyte

By Rolando O. Borrinaga
Tacloban City

THE PATTERN of abandonment of our provinces has not really changed in centuries.

Consider the following realities: lack of resources to address the basic needs of life; the manifest negligence of government officials; and the towns remaining in their sorry state, without being offered anything that would lead to development.

And the religious communities would only fulfill their parochial duties, being in charge of the development of the ministry.

If you think I am referring to the present, you are wrong. I refer to the 1770s, just after the Augustinian missionaries had taken over the Leyte missions from the expelled Jesuits.

At that time, an unnamed Augustinian friar complained that the local commandant, Don Pablo Verdote, was giving much suffering to the religious, for he did not want to adjust the orders of the governor [for Leyte and Samar], whose every act was a matter of pleasure and whim.

The Augustinian lamented: "I say that, in general, the earth is fertile and productive, of rice, of cows and pigs, or oil and coconut wine, have much and good wax in the mountains, excellent wood for construction, enough cocoa, tobacco, *cabalonga* [sic] seed, a lot of abaca or hemp and other species. In the center there is a range of high mountains that divide the Island and cause the diversity of temperaments. In the middle of these mountains there is a volcano that gives a lot of sulfur, vermilion, alum and other drug-making elements. In the ports of [H]ilongos and Carigara and others, I saw that they made galleys and sampans. The Indians are not well reduced into towns; they prefer to live in the wilderness and thick forests.

Piracy

"But much of our troubles is in seeing the seas of this Island continually full of Joloan and Mindanao Moros who do not stop their piracy over there. They capture many boats of the Indians and of the Spaniards, and what I noticed was that they took more than sixty of these in one year. Though the towns have their *baluartes* [forts] and stonewalls, with stonecutters and *lantacas* [cannons] corresponding to the capacity of their residents, they often do not have enough of these [structures] in the face of the superior force and armada of the Moros.

"And though you fence the church and the convent, where you can gather the residents, [the Moros] light a fire by throwing lit arrows, which could roast those inside if they did not surrender or gave in to the general assault, as I have seen many times. Many thousands of Indians have been taken captive, and for which reason the best lands in the Bisayas are almost uninhabited. There is not a town that had not been taken and defeated by these damned pirates in Leyte.

"The whole Island of Leyte is much distempered by the heat, the winds, the very extensive cloudbursts that make the exit from the house almost impossible, and the dark and melancholic situation, with hurricanes and furious typhoons; with thunders, and formidable rays [of the sun] that kill some Indians every year, and with a thousand other intemperances.

"There are also many and frequent earthquakes and temblors that demolish the churches and convents, and for this reason there is continuous work and this alone is an eternal source of headache. And if the Father-Minister does not initiate the work, do not ever think that he could have a decent house, or a good church fenced with stakes, or a fort for the defense against the enemies.

"In the years of forty-three and forty-four [1743-44], there were strong earthquakes that ruined many towns and a mountain collapsed about a hundred fathoms. In the year forty-nine [1749], the volcano exploded with fire from six mouths. For two weeks the sun could not be seen by day, and the temblors lasted a whole year and continued later, resulting in pestilence, lightning and annoying rains of ash.

"In Leyte, and in all other provinces of the Bisayas and their adjacent areas, there are many snakes of all colors and shapes; the rivers, seas and lagoons are full of very carnivorous caimans or crocodiles. There are scorpions, centipedes, mites and other poisonous vermin with killer bites. The diseases are plentiful, incognito, rebellious and incurable ...

In limbo

"In the Bisayas, we are like in limbo, with very little news of the world. There are no Gacetas or Mercurios [periodicals made available to priests], and neither do they want nor take these there ... Through all these you have the Indians who ordinarily live in the forests, mountains and wilderness, about three or four leagues away from the church. They come [to town] only on Sundays to hear Mass and to play the roosters [cockfighting]. The two [existing] roads are bad, the sun is burning, the cloudbursts are many, the sandbars of the rivers are dangerous, the horses are few and bad, for which it is better to walk on the water, and the canoes and bancas very flimsy and weak."

Indeed, the pattern of government neglect has remained the same. Only the identities of the practitioners and the perennial victims have changed through time.

Who is Rene Villa and why is he agrarian reform secretary?

By Ma. Diosa Labiste
Iloilo City

TO BE among the lesser known members of the Cabinet is a blessing. At least that was what lawyer Rene Villa believed when he was named the new agrarian reform secretary.

People are wondering who he is and why he was chosen along with two others from Iloilo, namely, former Deputy Speaker Raul Gonzalez Sr. (Justice Secretary), and former Rep. Augusto Syjuco (Technical Education and Skill Development Authority chair).

Villa was the Presidential Assistant for Western Visayas, with the rank of undersecretary, when the President plucked him to head the Department of Agrarian Reform.

Villa would like to play the part of a mysterious man chosen to head an office often reserved for firebrands and those with known leanings for social justice.

He said: "I must be clean that the President chose me."

Even before he assumed office, Villa was aware that farmers' groups and non-government organizations called him "pro-landlord." Groups, led by the Caucus of Agrarian Reform Advocates (Cara), even staged a mock welcome for Villa on Aug. 25 to "set the mood for challenges" awaiting him. They said that Villa was appointed because President Macapagal-Arroyo wants to pay her dues to Western Visayas that helped her win in the last elections. They also said that Villa is not fit to head the agrarian reform department.

Villa said he is not pro-landlord as some groups think. "Maybe they are saying that for the lack of anything else to say. My only claim to aristocracy is intellectual aristocracy," he said.

Laid-back

Back home, Villa was never known as a champion of land reform or somebody linked to land as a tenant or landlord. Villa is laid-back and not a firebrand but has the right connection through his Sigma Rho fraternity brod, Sen. Franklin Drilon, something he does not deny publicly.

Villa cannot help but confront the issue that President Macapagal-Arroyo was trying to reward Western Visayas by appointing him.

When asked about his role in the last election, Villa said that during presidential visits, he, as Presidential Assistant for Western Visayas, made sure that there were briefing papers and ready-made questions and answers for her to read whenever she faced governors, mayors and people attending the so-called consultations.

During the President's campaign sorties in Panay, Villa arranged her schedule and was always with her. He said he must have been impressed with his managerial skills.

In the party after the President's inauguration in Cebu, June 30, Villa stood at one end of the reception line. But he said Ms Arroyo called him and asked his thoughts on land reform. Right after that, when the First Gentleman Jose Miguel shook his hands, Villa knew he was out to get the agrarian reform portfolio.

To prepare for his new job as agrarian reform secretary, Villa read on agrarian reform laws, circulars and implementing rules. He psyched himself up on how to face the Manila press and the protesting farmers that are ever present in the premises of DAR office in Manila.

Villa said he comes to the DAR as a manager and somebody from outside who has fresh ideas on how to run the department.

DAR is divided along ideological lines but he is not identified with any groups. Land reform, Villa believed, should not only be concerned with land distribution but also productivity if it has to make an impact on the lives of the landless. It has to be tied neatly with the government's development package, he said.

Background

Villa thinks his years in government service will help him in his new post. Aside from being Presidential Assistant for Western Visayas (from June 1999 to November 2000 and from January 2001 to August 2004), he coordinated the government multi-agency program called Kalahi and co-hosted a cable TV talk show with the local Philippine Information Agency.

He studied political science at the University of the Philippines Iloilo and law in UP Diliman.

From 1982 to 1983, he was assistant vice president for legal and administration of Landoil Corp. of Speaker Jose de Venecia, and was based in Kuwait. Two years before that, he was in Saudi Arabia working with the Philippine Singapore Ports Corp.

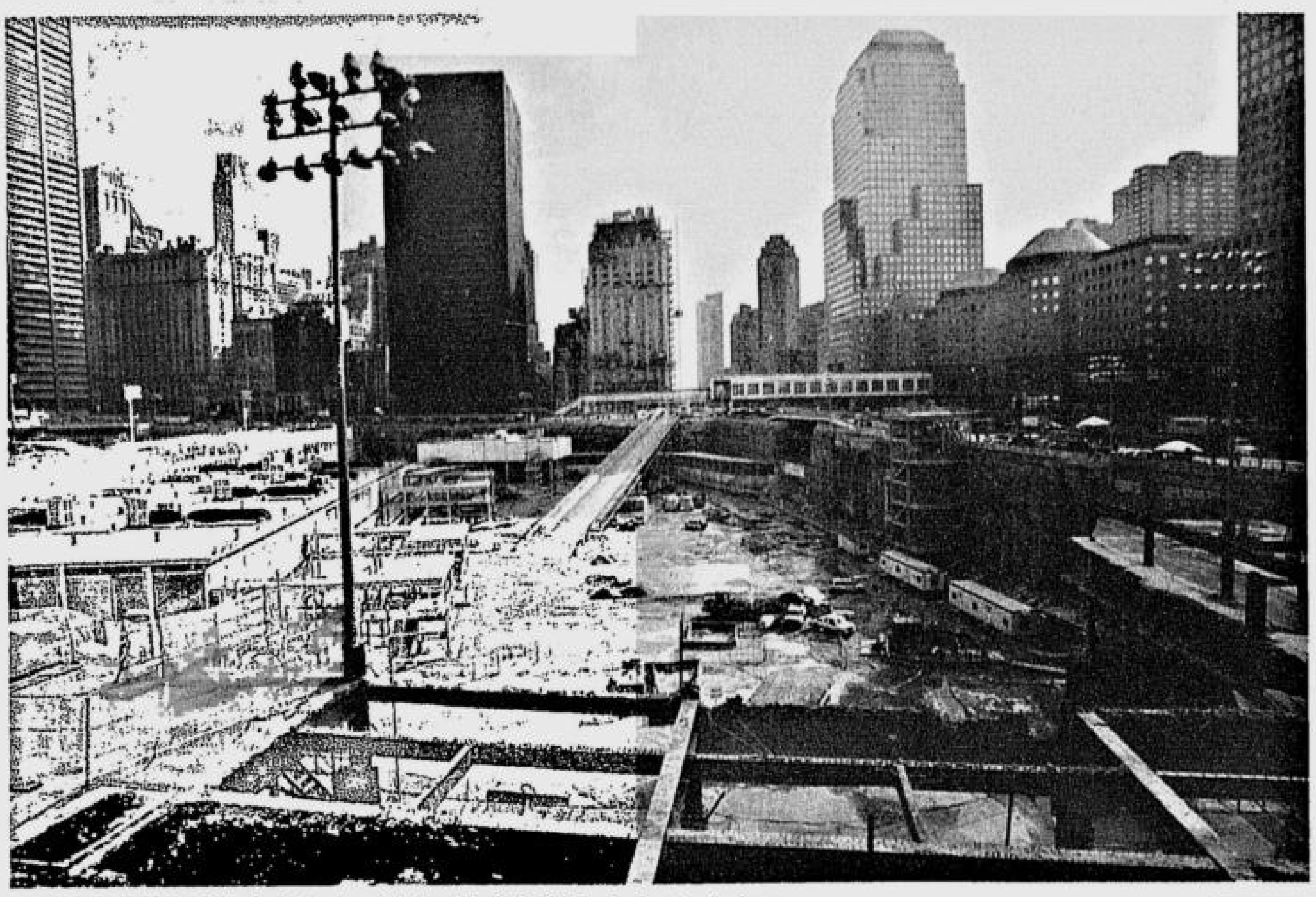
He lectured in business law at the UP Visayas and law courses at the University of San Agustin, Iloilo City.

This year Villa received a jubilee award in the field of law from the UP Alumni Association of Iloilo and had been elected to various positions in the local chapter of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines. He is also an avid golfer.

Comfort zone

He looks forward to 2005 when the national office of the Department of Agrarian Reform moves to Iloilo City, to be near the land reform hot spots in the neighboring Negros island. In her speech, the President promised to move the offices of DAR and Department of Transportation and Communication to the Visayas. Villa said he wants to be with his family in Iloilo, which is his "comfort zone." Agrarian reform advocates said they fear that Villa may succumb to the landlords' pressure at a time when the comprehensive agrarian reform program (CARP) is at its final phase. Set to end in 2008 after 20 years of implementation, CARP enters its most difficult phase, the acquisition and distribution of private agricultural lands to farmer beneficiaries. Cara said more than 10 percent of the 800,000-hectare national distribution balance is in Negros Occidental, mostly *haciendas* (sugar estates) owned and controlled by elite landlord clans such as the Cojuangcos, Cuencas, Lopezes, Gustilos, Montañezes, Espinos and Medados.

VILLA CEBU DAILY NEWS



GROUND ZERO: A big hole is what is left of the World Trade Center today. GETTY IMAGES

'Something terrible happened here'

From page A1

said, the fear of a seemingly inevitable death in her voice. She was desperately trying to reach Trixie, an occupational therapist working at a hospital in Manhattan.

Trixie was then on her way to work.

It was only later, on reaching her office, that she heard her mom's message in the recording machine.

By then, it was too late—the Twin Towers had imploded in a billow of dust and debris, burying her mom and the others on a day that changed the world forever.

Wilson was on the 79th floor of the 110-story tower housing the offices of dozens of US and multinational companies.

The hijacked plane struck somewhere around the 85th floor.

She lives on in a cassette

Trixie took home the microcassette.

Today, the tape remains in the Sony recorder, displayed on a table beside the smiling portraits of Cynthia and a lighted yellow candle with an image of the Our Lady of Guadalupe in her daughter's Manhattan apartment living room.

Her body was never found, but her voice lives on.

To the families of the victims of the Sept. 11 attacks, the depth of their grief lies not only in the ruthlessness of the assault but in its suddenness.

Relatives lost their loved ones in a snap, leaving them without even any traces of bodies or belongings to bury—a haunting tragedy without a closure.

Believe it or not, some still believe their loved ones may have somehow survived and would show up on their doorsteps one day. Each passing day chips away that hope and each terrorist strike anywhere in the world renews Sept. 11 in their minds.

It's as though those still missing have not really died and yet every terror attack brings pain.

I should know. I am Cynthia Motus Wilson's youngest sister.

A clump of earth

In Cynthia's case, we tried to replicate a burial and an end by burying a scoop of earth the family got from Ground Zero.

The ceremony, attended by her favorite American Catholic priest, Rev. Joseph Irwin, somehow eased our suffering but it did not banish our memories of her. Maybe, someday, the feeling of suffering would completely go.

To this day, we're still in a state of disbelief, half-imagining that Cynthia was just away at work or out getting stuff in the grocery store for a family reunion she always organized—a penchant as regular to her as taking a bath.

From the 79th floor of the World Trade Center (WTC) towers, where she worked in an outsourcing company, I could imagine that she relished the lay of New York every day, an American Dream she had harbored since childhood.

Born in Iloilo on Oct. 18, 1948, she was the eldest of seven children. In 1986, she settled in America with her family and later remarried Bill Wilson.

Ironically, that American dream she had realized, symbolized by her working in one of the tallest towers in America, would also become her graveyard.

The sunny, bustling morning of Sept. 11, 2001 drew in without a hint of disaster.

Shattered dreams

Like any other morning, she got up and prepared breakfast, with the table chatter centering on a house she and Bill were planning to buy in Warwick in upstate New York.

Bill accompanied her to the train station. The train arrived, he bade her goodbye and she disappeared behind its doors.

About an hour later, slightly after 9 a.m., she was on the phone and Bill thought her sudden call might have something to do with the planned house purchase. But no, something terrible had happened.

"She called to tell me that a plane had hit and shaken her building," Bill would recount to me later. She told him that she was with three other women in their 79th floor office, which was starting to fill with smoke.

Apparently, a wall had collapsed, preventing them from leaving their office and forcing them to frantically seek help through mobile phones.

"There is a lot of smoke, what will I do?" she asked, worried.

"I told her to look for a piece of cloth, soak it with water and cover her face," Bill said. She replied: "Honey, I love you. "Ill see you when this is over."

Ringing phone

Then she called Trixie to tell of the hellish disaster that was unraveling before her eyes, but no one answered on the other end. She spoke into the recording machine and then hang up. She did not tell her daughter that a plane had struck the building.

An uncle living in Queens, New York, Rex Betita, next received her distress call.

"Our building was hit by a plane. We're waiting for help," she told him.

At that time, my uncle had a better grip of what was unfolding. He was watching CNN as he talked with her.

My sister told our uncle that people in the building had been advised by somebody through the public address system to abandon their offices after the first plane struck Tower One, where she was in. She told him that for unexplained reasons, the employees who had left began returning to their offices and were unable to leave.

Then, speaking in Ilonggo, my sister told my uncle *"Pangadian mo na lang kami* (Please pray for us)." Then her line went dead.

At that moment, my uncle watched in horror as Tower One crumbled down in a fiery crash of metal and concrete.

Revisiting crashed tower

A retired office employee, my uncle yelled in horror, broke down and wept.

I saw the extent of the grief and damage when I traveled to New York a month later with another sister.

Entering a family assistance center set up by the New York City government on Westside Highway, I saw wives, husbands, sons and daughters and friends holding on to pictures of the missing and the dead.

Most were no longer crying and were being comforted by a battery of psychiatrists, masseurs and counselors. Food was overflowing, overseas calls were provided for free. Donated stuff toys, letters of grief and flowers streamed from all over a commiserating world. Doctors were on standby to provide help. Still, grief and shock pervaded the place.

We were taken aboard a boat for a 15-minute ride to Ground Zero, which was still smoldering and teeming with rescue workers.

It was a surreal war zone—an image of mountain-high twisted debris, smoke and clattering cranes. Everything was gray and grimy. There was none of the swank high-end business district WTC ambiance that had been the pride of America and the capitalist world.

Sister in a bottle

Everywhere we and other victims' relatives turned, firefighters and rescue workers stopped, took off their hard hats and bowed their heads in sympathy. It was forbidden to take any object or debris from the area, but days earlier my sister's husband and children were there and it was not hard for them to persuade a rescue worker to give them a small clump of earth placed in a medicine bottle—a reminder of their pain.

The bottle was placed in a metal urn, which was buried on a chilly, drizzling morning of Oct. 5, 2001 at the Gate of Heaven cemetery in Valhalla, 25 miles north of New York City.

As a testament to the cheerful life Cynthia Wilson had lived and to ease the harsh memories of Sept. 11, our family placed a reddish granite tombstone to mark the grave.

A line we lifted from one of her favorite poems was her epitaph: "Don't grieve for me, but remember me with laughter."

Fallout of terror attacks still lingers

From page A1

Iraq crossed the symbolic 1,000 mark—a grim reminder of the cost of the open-ended war on terror.

At home, fear of a fresh attack remains a potent force, with regular national alerts, simulated security exercises and, in the past week, shocking television images of the terrorist bombing in Jakarta and massacre of schoolchildren in Beslan, Russia.

And on Thursday, US television networks showed a video broadcast by al-Qaida number two Ayman al-Zawahiri, vowing that defeat for US forces in Iraq and Afghanistan was a matter of time. (*See story on Page A10.*)

Zawahiri last appeared in a video broadcast almost the same time a year ago, on the eve of the second Sept. 11 anniversary, walking with Osama bin Laden in a green mountainous area.

As was the case with the past two anniversaries, New York City will be the focus of Saturday's remembrance events, with a ceremony at Ground Zero featuring parents and grandparents reading the names of the 2,749 victims of the World Trade Center attack.

The reading will pause at four moments: twice to mark the times that each plane hit the towers and twice more to mark the times each tower fell.

And later in the evening, in what looks set to become an annual tribute, two powerful spotlights will send two shafts of light up into the night sky to symbolize the fallen twin towers.

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld will lay a wreath at the national Arlington Cemetery in memory of the 184 people who died when another hijacked plane was flown into the Pentagon.

A fourth airliner carrying 44 people crashed in Pennsylvania after passengers staged a rebellion against the hijackers. Speculation has it that that plane had been headed for another target in Washington, possibly the White House.

Despite the horrific memories associated with the anniversary, there are increasing signs this year that New Yorkers and their city have moved on.

The gaping scar that was Ground Zero is now a hive of redevelopment, following the groundbreaking ceremony on July 4, Independence Day, for the Freedom Tower that will form the centerpiece of the reconstructed trade center site.

The city's economy is back on track after three harsh years, with tourist numbers back up and small businesses returning in force to the lower Manhattan area.

New York Fashion Week opened Wednesday and, for the first time since the attacks, will include events on the day of the anniversary.

"I think it's totally fine that people go to shows on Sept. 11," said Alexandra Marshall, editor of Daily, the Fashion Week newsletter. "It doesn't mean they forget, but fashion is a tremendous business and people have to go on with their lives."

Newspapers have also noted a number of couples who intend to get married on Saturday.

As he did last year, President George W. Bush will observe a moment of silence on the lawn of the White House at 8:46 a.m. (8:46 p.m. in Manila)—the time the first plane struck the World Trade Center.

Bush's Democratic challenger in the Nov. 2 election, John Kerry, will attend a commemorative event in his home town of Boston.

For Bush, Sept. 11 remains the defining moment of his presidency and the foundation of his national security policy, which he has placed firmly at the center of his election campaign.

"We have fought the terrorists across the earth, not for pride, not for power, but because the lives of our citizens are at stake. Our strategy is clear," Bush told the Republican convention in New York last Saturday.

While Kerry has focused more on economic and health issues, he has also struggled hard to present himself as a more effective commander in chief who would keep Americans safe.

In a Time Magazine poll released Sept. 2, 24 percent of Americans said the war on terror would be their priority issue in selecting the next president, while 25 percent cited the economy. *AFP*

NY still trying to dig its way out of Ground Zero

NEW YORK—The two airliners that converted the twin towers into Ground Zero also crushed a neighborhood where well-heeled financial center customers have been replaced by tourists.

The Sept. 11, 2001 attacks left Manhattan in a $54-billion hole, with a loss of 100,000 jobs and more than a million square meters of commercial space, according to the city's chamber of commerce.

"The tourists come, they go to that block, they look at that hole, maybe they buy some of the stuff on the street, and they leave," said Renee Rosales-Kopel, director of sales for William Barthman, a jeweler known in the financial center since 1884.

The jeweler is one business that has suffered the changes in Lower Manhattan and the absence of the large financial companies once located in the World Trade Center, but which moved to other parts of the city or New Jersey.

"We have to start all over," she said.

The neighborhood, once the turf of high-salaried employees, is now the terrain of tourists who haggle over Manhattan's sky-high prices.

Three million persons visited Ground Zero in 2003, according to the Downtown Alliance, which did little to improve what Rosales-Kopel called "a very, very bad year."

She said that in the aftermath of the attacks, things were better. New Yorkers have since forgotten their early commitment to shop downtown as a show of patriotism.

"It's over," she said.

However, area restaurants have benefited from the walk-in crowds.

"Definitely, things have returned to normal," said Marisa Brown, manager of Les Halles restaurant on John Street, near Ground Zero.

"Since Sept. 11, our sales have risen solidly," she said, adding that 2003 sales were up about $10,000.

"People see that the area is flourishing and growing."

Even The World of Golf has come back, said Steve Winograd, who has managed the golf shop since 1999.

"Business is better, probably more than even pre-Sept. 11 right now," he said.

Architect Daniel Libeskind, who drew plans for construction on Ground Zero, told reporters: "There is a move. People are coming back, offices, buildings are being transformed into lofts and apartments, people want to be there and be part of the rebuilding process."

He spoke at a press conference Tuesday, four days before a commemoration of the third anniversary of the attacks, in which more than 2,700 people died in New York.

However, a group of businessmen wrote a letter to President George W. Bush, asking for federal aid for a new passenger rail line for the area.

"Despite major growth in the residential sector, the pace of employment recovery has been slow and the area continues to suffer economically. *AFP*

Tanong ng Bayan
INQ TV
ABC Tuwing Huwebes, 8pm

I-text ang inyong "fearless view" sa 2910. Pipiliin namin ang pinakamagaling na sagot. Ang premyo linggo-linggo:
Isang 21" color TV set!
I-type: INQTV <ang inyong sagot>, <buong pangalan>, <siyudad o probinsiya>, tapos ipadala sa 2910. Cut-off time: WEDNESDAY, 6 PM. Winner will be identified during the InqTV program: Thursday, 8pm, on ABC.

text 2910
Sun Smart Globe
Talamak na nakawan ng cellphone: Ano'ng solusyon?

Congratulations kay
Aileen de la Cruz ng Alabang!
Her fearless view wins her a 21" TV set!

"masyadong peligroso bkt ppayagan mga ocw. sa australia n ing humiling mga amerikano. wag n tyong kumuha ng batong pupukpok s ulo"

Palace appeals: Don't blame GMA for hard times

From page A1

ception that she cheated during the May 10 presidential election.

The Palace also saw a silver lining behind the clouds.

"The economic problems may have weighed down her ratings but a positive 12 percent still shows solid acceptance for the President," Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye said.

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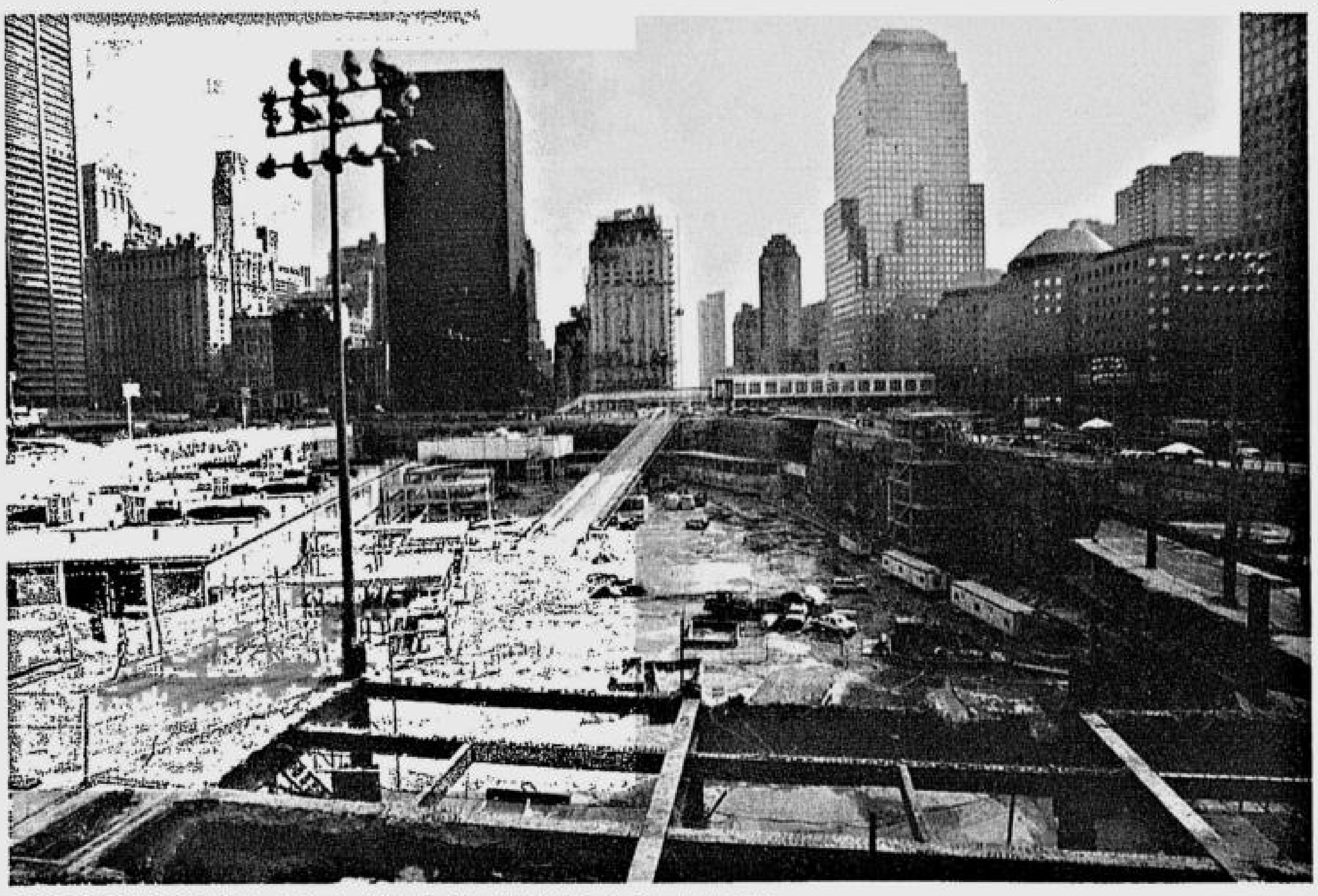

GROUND ZERO: A big hole is what is left of the World Trade Center today. GETTY IMAGES

Fallout of terror attacks still lingers

From page A1

Iraq crossed the symbolic 1,000 mark—a grim reminder of the cost of the open-ended war on terror.

At home, fear of a fresh attack remains a potent force, with regular national alerts, simulated security exercises and, in the past week, shocking television images of the terrorist bombing in Jakarta and massacre of schoolchildren in Beslan, Russia.

And on Thursday, US television networks showed a video broadcast by al-Qaida number two Ayman al-Zawahiri, vowing that defeat for US forces in Iraq and Afghanistan was a matter of time. (*See story on Page A10.*)

Zawahiri last appeared in a video broadcast almost the same time a year ago, on the eve of the second Sept. 11 anniversary, walking with Osama bin Laden in a green mountainous area.

As was the case with the past two anniversaries, New York City will be the focus of Saturday's remembrance events, with a cèremony at Ground Zero featuring parents and grandparents reading the names of the 2,749 victims of the World Trade Center attack.

The reading will pause at four moments: twice to mark the times that each plane hit the towers and twice more to mark the times each tower fell.

And later in the evening, in what looks set to become an annual tribute, two powerful spotlights will send two shafts of light up into the night sky to symbolize the fallen twin towers.

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld will lay a wreath at the national Arlington Cemetery in memory of the 184 people who died when another hijacked plane was flown into the Pentagon.

A fourth airliner carrying 44 people crashed in Pennsylvania after passengers staged a rebellion against the hijackers. Speculation has it that that plane had been headed for another target in Washington, possibly the White House.

Despite the horrific memories associated with the anniversary, there are increasing signs this year that New Yorkers and their city have moved on.

The gaping scar that was Ground Zero is now a hive of redevelopment, following the groundbreaking ceremony on July 4, Independence Day, for the Freedom Tower that will form the centerpiece of the reconstructed trade center site.

The city's economy is back on track after three harsh years, with tourist numbers back up and small businesses returning in force to the lower Manhattan area.

New York Fashion Week opened Wednesday and, for the first time since the attacks, will include events on the day of the anniversary.

"I think it's totally fine that people go to shows on Sept. 11," said Alexandra Marshall, editor of Daily, the Fashion Week newsletter. "It doesn't mean they forget, but fashion is a tremendous business and people have to go on with their lives."

Newspapers have also noted a number of couples who intend to get married on Saturday.

As he did last year, President George W. Bush will observe a moment of silence on the lawn of the White House at 8:46 a.m. (8:46 p.m. in Manila)—the time the first plane struck the World Trade Center.

Bush's Democratic challenger in the Nov. 2 election, John Kerry, will attend a commemorative event in his home town of Boston.

For Bush, Sept. 11 remains the defining moment of his presidency and the foundation of his national security policy, which he has placed firmly at the center of his election campaign.

"We have fought the terrorists across the earth, not for pride, not for power, but because the lives of our citizens are at stake. Our strategy is clear," Bush told the Republican convention in New York last Saturday.

While Kerry has focused more on economic and health issues, he has also struggled hard to present himself as a more effective commander in chief who would keep Americans safe.

In a Time Magazine poll released Sept. 2, 24 percent of Americans said the war on terror would be their priority issue in selecting the next president, while 25 percent cited the economy. *AFP*

'Something terrible happened here'

From page A1

said, the fear of a seemingly inevitable death in her voice. She was desperately trying to reach Trixie, an occupational therapist working at a hospital in Manhattan.

Trixie was then on her way to work.

It was only later, on reaching her office, that she heard her mom's message in the recording machine.

By then, it was too late—the Twin Towers had imploded in a billow of dust and debris, burying her mom and the others on a day that changed the world forever.

Wilson was on the 79th floor of the 110-story tower housing the offices of dozens of US and multinational companies.

The hijacked plane struck somewhere around the 85th floor.

She lives on in a cassette

Trixie took home the microcassette.

Today, the tape remains in the Sony recorder, displayed on a table beside the smiling portraits of Cynthia and a lighted yellow candle with an image of the Our Lady of Guadalupe in her daughter's Manhattan apartment living room.

Her body was never found, but her voice lives on.

To the families of the victims of the Sept. 11 attacks, the depth of their grief lies not only in the ruthlessness of the assault but in its suddenness.

Relatives lost their loved ones in a snap, leaving them without even any traces of bodies or belongings to bury—a haunting tragedy without a closure.

Believe it or not, some still believe their loved ones may have somehow survived and would show up on their doorsteps one day. Each passing day chips away that hope and each terrorist strike anywhere in the world renews Sept. 11 in their minds.

It's as though those still missing have not really died and yet every terror attack brings pain.

I should know. I am Cynthia Motus Wilson's youngest sister.

A clump of earth

In Cynthia's case, we tried to replicate a burial and an end by burying a scoop of earth the family got from Ground Zero.

The ceremony, attended by her favorite American Catholic priest, Rev. Joseph Irwin, somehow eased our suffering but it did not banish our memories of her. Maybe, someday, the feeling of suffering would completely go.

To this day, we're still in a state of disbelief, half-imagining that Cynthia was just away at work or out getting stuff in the grocery store for a family reunion she always organized—a penchant as regular to her as taking a bath.

From the 79th floor of the World Trade Center (WTC) towers, where she worked in an outsourcing company, I could imagine that she relished the lay of New York every day, an American Dream she had harbored since childhood.

Born in Iloilo on Oct. 18, 1948, she was the eldest of seven children. In 1986, she settled in America with her family and later remarried Bill Wilson.

Ironically, that American dream she had realized, symbolized by her working in one of the tallest towers in America, would also become her graveyard.

The sunny, bustling morning of Sept. 11, 2001 drew in without a hint of disaster.

Shattered dreams

Like any other morning, she got up and prepared breakfast, with the table chatter centering on a house she and Bill were planning to buy in Warwick in upstate New York.

Bill accompanied her to the train station. The train arrived, he bade her goodbye and she disappeared behind its doors.

About an hour later, slightly after 9 a.m., she was on the phone and Bill thought her sudden call might have something to do with the planned house purchase. But no, something terrible had happened.

"She called to tell me that a plane had hit and shaken her building," Bill would recount to me later. She told him that she was with three other women in their 79th floor office, which was starting to fill with smoke.

Apparently, a wall had collapsed, preventing them from leaving their office and forcing them to frantically seek help through mobile phones.

"There is a lot of smoke, what will I do?" she asked, worried.

"I told her to look for a piece of cloth, soak it with water and cover her face," Bill said. She replied: "Honey, I love you. "Ill see you when this is over."

Ringing phone

Then she called Trixie to tell of the hellish disaster that was unraveling before her eyes, but no one answered on the other end. She spoke into the recording machine and then hang up. She did not tell her daughter that a plane had struck the building.

An uncle living in Queens, New York, Rex Betita, next received her distress call.

"Our building was hit by a plane. We're waiting for help," she told him.

At that time, my uncle had a better grip of what was unfolding. He was watching CNN as he talked with her.

My sister told our uncle that people in the building had been advised by somebody through the public address system to abandon their offices after the first plane struck Tower One, where she was in. She told him that for unexplained reasons, the employees who had left began returning to their offices and were unable to leave.

Then, speaking in Ilonggo, my sister told my uncle "*Pangadian mo na lang kami* (Please pray for us)." Then her line went dead.

At that moment, my uncle watched in horror as Tower One crumbled down in a fiery crash of metal and concrete.

Revisiting crashed tower

A retired office employee, my uncle yelled in horror, broke down and wept.

I saw the extent of the grief and damage when I traveled to New York a month later with another sister.

Entering a family assistance center set up by the New York City government on Westside Highway, I saw wives, husbands, sons and daughters and friends holding on to pictures of the missing and the dead.

Most were no longer crying and were being comforted by a battery of psychiatrists, masseurs and counselors. Food was overflowing, overseas calls were provided for free. Donated stuff toys, letters of grief and flowers streamed from all over a commiserating world. Doctors were on standby to provide help. Still, grief and shock pervaded the place.

We were taken aboard a boat for a 15-minute ride to Ground Zero, which was still smoldering and teeming with rescue workers.

It was a surreal war zone—an image of mountain-high twisted debris, smoke and clattering cranes. Everything was gray and grimy. There was none of the swank high-end business district WTC ambiance that had been the pride of America and the capitalist world.

Sister in a bottle

Everywhere we and other victims' relatives turned, firefighters and rescue workers stopped, took off their hard hats and bowed their heads in sympathy. It was forbidden to take any object or debris from the area, but days earlier my sister's husband and children were there and it was not hard for them to persuade a rescue worker to give them a small clump of earth placed in a medicine bottle—a reminder of their pain.

The bottle was placed in a metal urn, which was buried on a chilly, drizzling morning of Oct. 5, 2001 at the Gate of Heaven cemetery in Valhalla, 25 miles north of New York City.

As a testament to the cheerful life Cynthia Wilson had lived and to ease the harsh memories of Sept. 11, our family placed a reddish granite tombstone to mark the grave.

A line we lifted from one of her favorite poems was her epitaph: "Don't grieve for me, but remember me with laughter."

NY still trying to dig its way out of Ground Zero

NEW YORK—The two airliners that converted the twin towers into Ground Zero also crushed a neighborhood where well-heeled financial center customers have been replaced by tourists.

The Sept. 11, 2001 attacks left Manhattan in a $54-billion hole, with a loss of 100,000 jobs and more than a million square meters of commercial space, according to the city's chamber of commerce.

"The tourists come, they go to that block, they look at that hole, maybe they buy some of the stuff on the street, and they leave," said Renee Rosales-Kopel, director of sales for William Barthman, a jeweler known in the financial center since 1884.

The jeweler is one business that has suffered the changes in Lower Manhattan and the absence of the large financial companies once located in the World Trade Center, but which moved to other parts of the city or New Jersey.

"We have to start all over," she said.

The neighborhood, once the turf of high-salaried employees, is now the terrain of tourists who haggle over Manhattan's sky-high prices.

Three million persons visited Ground Zero in 2003, according to the Downtown Alliance, which did little to improve what Rosales-Kopel called "a very, very bad year."

She said that in the aftermath of the attacks, things were better. New Yorkers have since forgotten their early commitment to shop downtown as a show of patriotism.

"It's over," she said.

However, area restaurants have benefited from the walk-in crowds.

"Definitely, things have returned to normal," said Marisa Brown, manager of Les Halles restaurant on John Street, near Ground Zero.

"Since Sept. 11, our sales have risen solidly," she said, adding that 2003 sales were up about $10,000.

"People see that the area is flourishing and growing."

Even The World of Golf has come back, said Steve Winograd, who has managed the golf shop since 1999.

"Business is better, probably more than even pre-Sept. 11 right now," he said.

Architect Daniel Libeskind, who drew plans for construction on Ground Zero, told reporters: "There is a move. People are coming back, offices, buildings are being transformed into lofts and apartments, people want to be there and be part of the rebuilding process."

He spoke at a press conference Tuesday, four days before a commemoration of the third anniversary of the attacks, in which more than 2,700 people died in New York.

However, a group of businessmen wrote a letter to President George W. Bush, asking for federal aid for a new passenger rail line for the area.

"Despite major growth in the residential sector, the pace of employment recovery has been slow and the area continues to suffer economically. *AFP*

Tanong ng Bayan
INQ TV
ABC Tuwing Huwebes, 8pm
I-text ang inyong "fearless view" sa 2910. Pipiliin namin ang pinakamagaling na sagot. Ang premyo linggo-linggo:
Isang 21" color TV set!
I-type: INQTV <ang inyong sagot>, <buong pangalan>, <siyudad o probinsiya>, tapos ipadala sa 2910. Cut-off time: WEDNESDAY, 6 PM. Winner will be identified during the InqTV program: Thursday, 8pm, on ABC.
text 2910
Talamak na nakawan ng cellphone: Ano'ng solusyon?
Congratulations kay
Aileen de la Cruz ng Alabang!
Her fearless view wins her a 21" TV set!
"masyadong peligroso bkt ppayagan mga ocw. sa australia n ing humiling mga amerikano. wag n tyong kumuha ng batong pupukpok s ulo"

Palace appeals: Don't blame GMA for hard times

From page A1

ception that she cheated during the May 10 presidential election.

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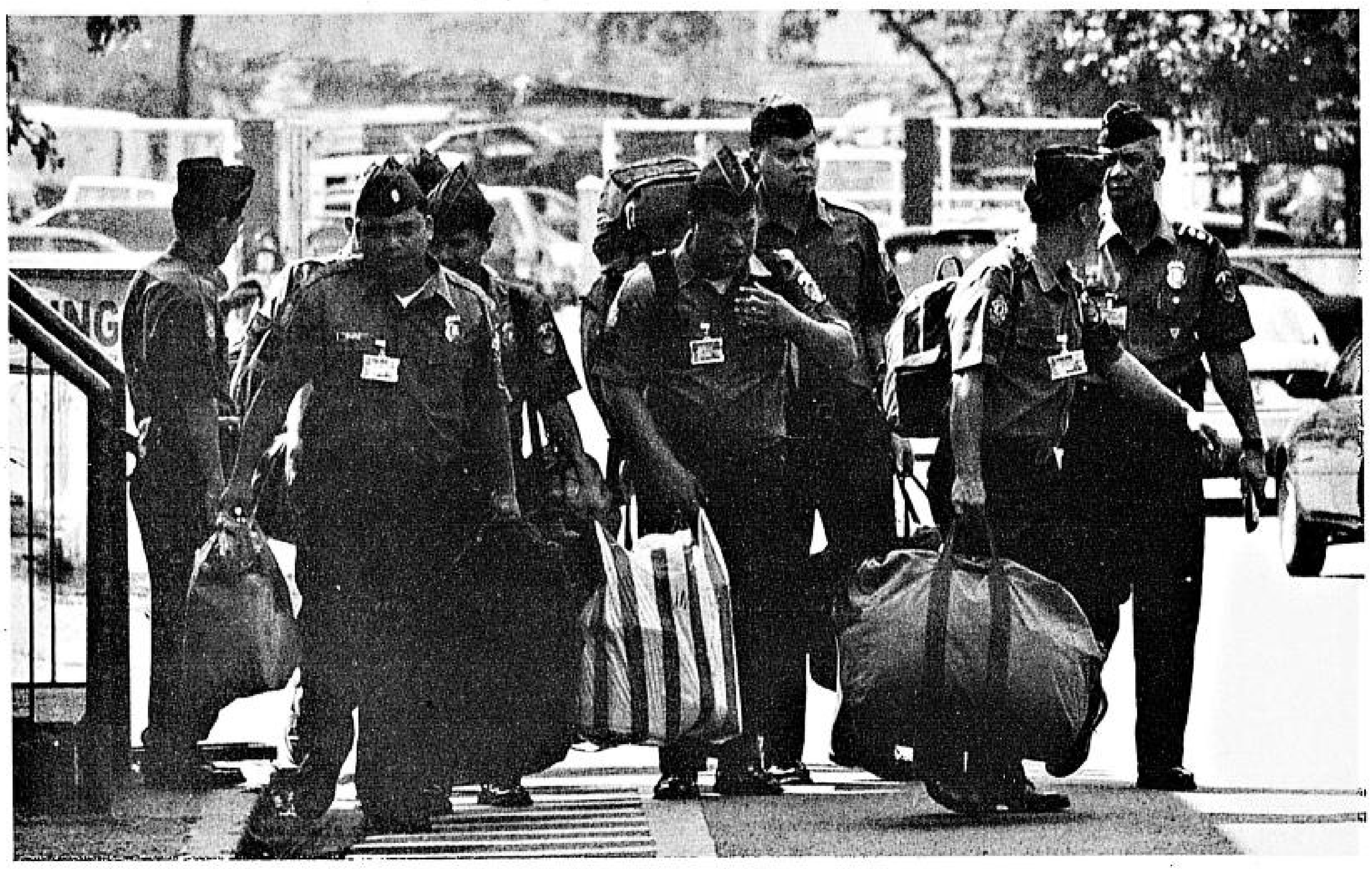
(In exact order)

Gas leak downs 26 Pasig students



OFF TO SUBIC

Metro policemen lug their bags on their way to Subic, Zambales not for sun, surf, and sand, but to undergo one month of rigid retraining at a Philippine National Police facility there. (Story on Page A4)

JOAN BONDOC

By Margaux C. Ortiz and Nancy C. Carvajal

CLASSES were suspended at the San Joaquin Elementary School in Pasig City yesterday when students complained of nausea and coughs believed to have been caused by toxic emissions from a nearby chemicals factory.

Sr. Supt. Ernesto Catungal, Pasig police chief, said gas fumes from ChemPhil disrupted classes around 7:20 a.m.

The factory is located a kilometer away from the school. Another plant, Alcochem, is also nearby, but it had closed down in 1998.

Twenty-three students were brought to a nearby health center for treatment, while three were taken to the Pasig City General Hospital.

"The parents of the children overreacted, leading to the suspension of classes," Catungal said, adding that the entire incident lasted for only 30 minutes.

Ligaya Banaag, school principal, said students with classes on the third, fourth and fifth floors of the five story building were the most affected by the smell that she described as "a strong, sulphur-like odor."

She added that classes had to be cancelled at around 8:30 a.m. because parents of the students began to panic, and she had wanted to avoid a stampede.

Arnold Rodriguez, aide of Pasig Mayor Vicente Eusebio, said the City Environment and Natural Resources Office is conducting an investigation of the incident.

Chemphil spokesperson Pearl-Angelie Laurea told the INQUIRER that a scheduled "maintenance activity" was done in the plant yesterday morning.

Laurea added that Chemphil would resume work only until they are given a clearance by a multi-partite monitoring team.

The team is composed of personnel from the Department of Natural Resources, the Department of Health, a safety and sanitation staff from city hall, and citizens' environment groups.

The team was formed in 2001 after a similar complaint was reportedly filed against the chemical plant.

In a text message sent to the INQUIRER later, Laurea said that "Chemphil is a group of companies. Not all companies under Chemphil had been identified with the incident this morning, only the LMG Chemicals Corp, that is engaged in the manufacture of sulphuric acid."

Early last year, Former Pasig Mayor Soledad Eusebio had ordered the closure of another gas factory for allegedly emitting toxic fumes, resulting in the near fatal poisoning of at least 14 persons, mostly children, residents of a densely populated community in the city.

Murder charge 'a fabrication'—DILG Usec

By Nelson F.Flores

DEPARTMENT of Interior and Local Government Undersecretary Melchor Rosales yesterday labeled as a "fabrication" criminal charges filed in the Office of the Ombudsman the other day against his superior, Interior Secretary Angelo Reyes.

The complainant, Rosalie Ramoso, is the sister of Rogelio and Ronaldo Ramoso, suspected kidnappers killed by National Anti-Kidnapping Task Force (NAKTF) agents in an encounter in Mabitac, Laguna last December 31. Reyes was the former head of the NAKTF.

In her multiple murder complaint, Ms Ramoso claimed that the murder of Lilia Diaz, finance executive at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport, was among the reasons her brothers were killed. The brothers were reportedly hired to get rid of Diaz.

Reyes' legal counsels recently filed a motion before the Office of the Ombudsman to expedite the resolution of the case, Rosales said, adding that Ms Ramoso could not back up her claims.

Opposition Senator Edgardo Angara, on the other hand, said Reyes, should take a leave of absence until an investigative body clears him of the charge.

"Without presuming his (Reyes') guilt, he must clear himself very quickly," Angara said.

With Christine O. Avendaño

Fraud charge hounds singer

By Tina Santos

A BUSINESSMAN yesterday filed a charge of falsification of public documents in the Quezon City Prosecutor's Office against singer and bus operator Claire de la Fuente over the ownership of a bus.

Santiago Maniago said his Nissan bus had been registered under the names of his two children. He claimed that De la Fuente prodded one of his sons to transfer its ownership to her name so he could get a franchise permit.

De la Fuente then allegedly claimed ownership of the bus. Reached for comment, De la Fuente's secretary said her employer was not available as she had a singing engagement.

No topless workers

TOPLESS construction workers have no place in the streets.

Metropolitan Manila Development Authority Chair Bayani Fernando yesterday said workers who are exposed to the public should follow a certain code of conduct while doing their duties.

Fernando said that construction companies are made to sign an agreement that their workers would observe specific rules before the MMDA grants them their permit.

Workers should be made to abide by standard safety requirements like wearing protective clothing, he added.

"They also cannot loaf around and sit idle during working hours," Fernando stressed, adding that laborers should wear the proper clothing. "At no point should they go topless," Fernando said. The permits of companies that refuse to heed the MMDA warnings would be revoked. *Margaux C. Ortiz*

Gov't cheated on cigarette taxes

ON TARGET

Ramon Tulfo

THE GOVERNMENT need not pass new tax laws to avert the feared fiscal crisis.

All it has to do is whip the Bureau of Internal Revenue and the Bureau of Customs into collecting the right amount of taxes and duties.

The BIR, particularly, is remiss in doing its job of collecting taxes due the government.

For example, the BIR reports that the annual sale of cigarettes is P80 billion yearly.

The ad valorem tax on the sale of cigarettes should have been one half of the gross sales, meaning P40 billion yearly.

But why is it that the BIR collects only P3 billion annually from the sale of cigarettes?

In other words, the government is cheated of P37 billion yearly on the sale of cigarettes.

* * *

The government should disseminate to all domestic helpers in the country the benefits they will derive from a law that protects their rights.

The law, known as the Magna Carta of Domestic Helpers, was authored by Cagayan Rep. Jack Enrile.

Little is known about the Jack Enrile law.

That's why the young Enrile was boiling mad when he learned about the maltreatment of Sonia Bernardino, 47.

Her former employer, Dolores Ikamen of Barangay Magdalo, Bahayang Pag-asa, Imus, Cavite is being accused of the misdeed.

Ikamen allegedly placed a hot iron—in Tagalog, *pinalantsa*—on the right and left forearm (not shoulders as earlier reported in this space) and right thigh of Bernardino.

It was a punishment for the housemaid for not immediately complying with her employer's instructions.

Although the incident happened last year, Bernardino is still in a state of shock.

Enrile has promised to provide lawyers for Bernardino free of charge.

* * *

A new law on shipping—Republic Act 9295—transfers the safety regulatory functions from the Coast Guard to the Maritime Industry Authority or Marina. This law is also known as the Domestic Shipping Act of 2004.

Among such functions are issuing safety certificates and boarding domestic vessels.

They now belong to Marina.

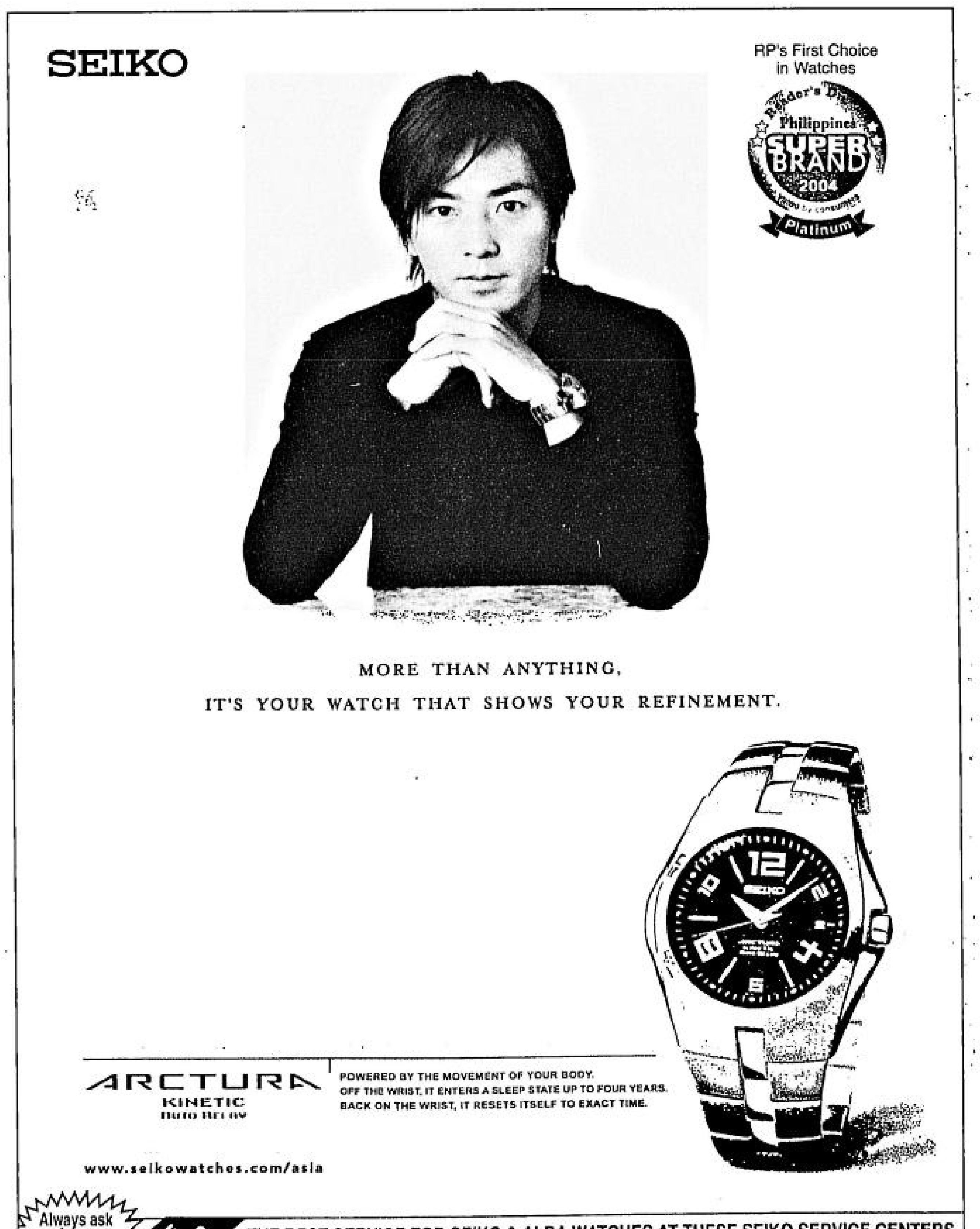
This is a mistake since the Coast Guard should be tasked with enforcing safety at sea among domestic vessels.

The Marina should be assigned the task of laying down policies that promote economic aspects of shipping.

There's a big difference between maritime safety and maritime development.

This is according to Vice Adm. Arthur Gosingan, Coast Guard commandant.

Safety at sea should be the job of the Coast Guard and not of Marina.



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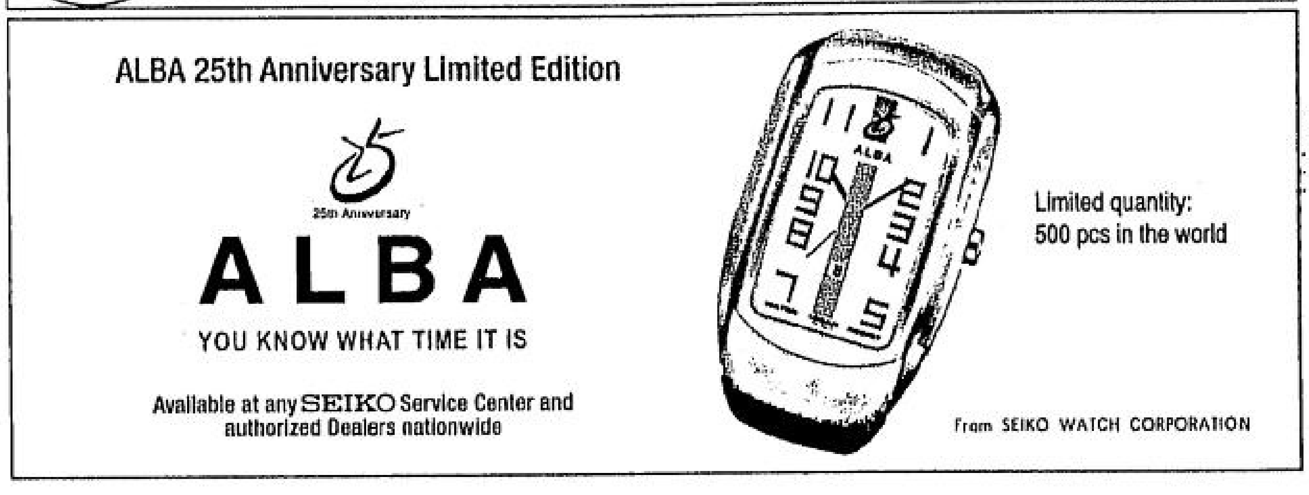

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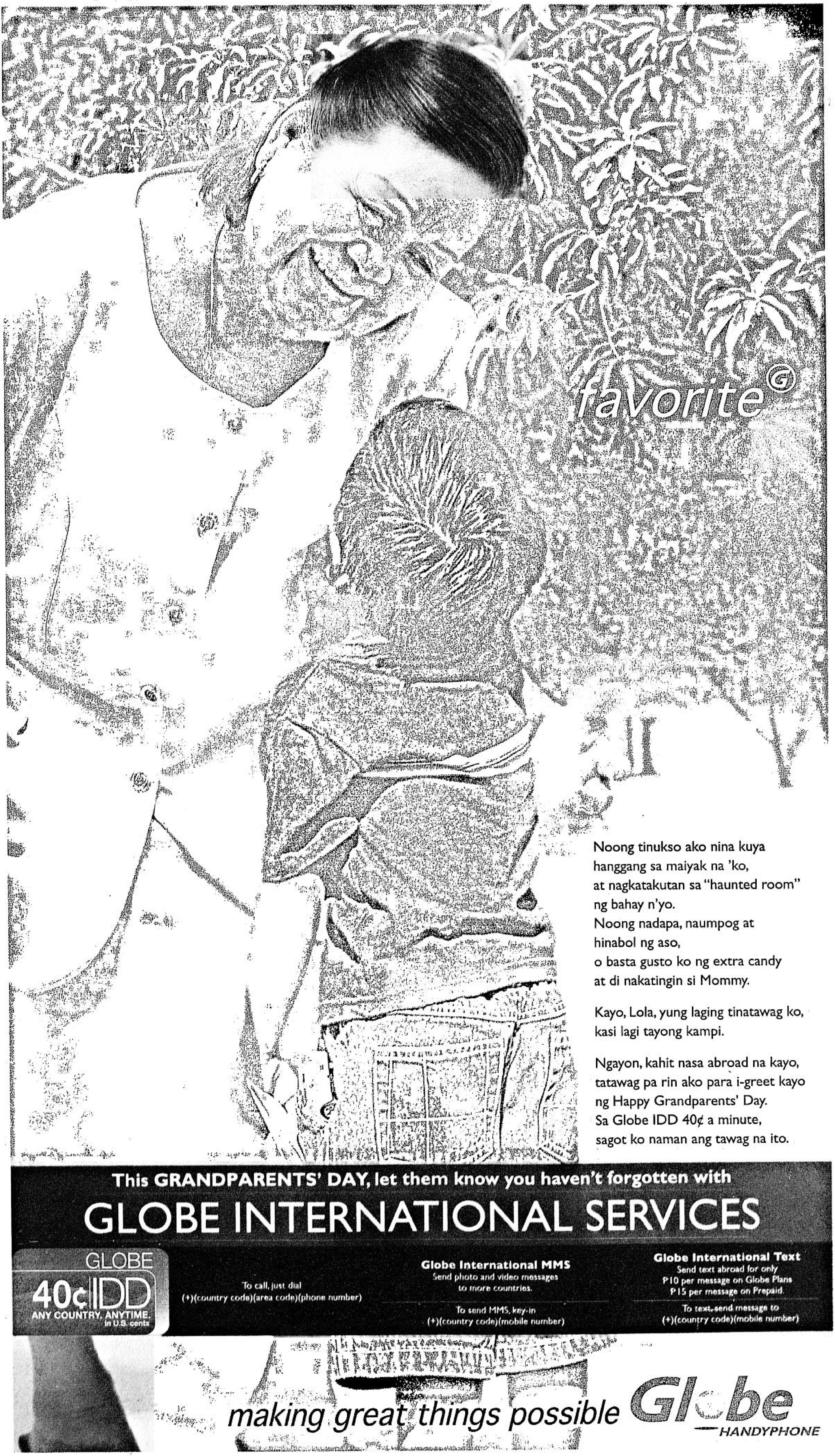

Noong tinukso ako nina kuya
hanggang sa maiyak na 'ko,
at nagkatakutan sa "haunted room"
ng bahay n'yo.
Noong nadapa, naumpog at
hinabol ng aso,
o basta gusto ko ng extra candy
at di nakatingin si Mommy.

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SPORTS TV

Compiled by L. Manguiat

TENNIS: US Open 2004; 1:30 p.m. (r) and midnight.; Star Sports—Catch the replay of the women's singles semifinals and men's doubles finals then witness the live airing of the men's singles semifinals from Flushing Meadows, New York.

MOTOR SPORTS: 2004 F1 Vodafone Italian Grand Prix Qualifying; 6:55 p.m.; Star Sports—Can Ferrari dominate in front of its hometown?

BASEBALL: MLB—White Sox vs Angels; 10 a.m. (r- 3:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.); ESPN - Chicago takes on Anaheim in this AL encounter

SPORTS

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Text us your feedback: Inquirer sprt name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

'Divine' basket rescues Knights

TOP MVP candidate Noy Javier (left) of Perpetual Help harasses Francis Albert Cruz of San Beda in their game yesterday. ROMY HOMILLADA

Lions forge sudden death, too, vs Altas

By Jasmine W. Payo

THE LETRAN Knights had started crying. But no way would the defending champions bid the NCAA crown goodbye this early.

And neither would the San Beda Lions walk out of the season so soon.

Letran, given up for lost, survived and won after Jonathan Aldave nailed a three-pointer with only 3.2 seconds left to stun the No. 2 seed Philippine Christian University Dolphins, 65-64, and force a knockout for the Finals slots in the 80th NCAA senior basketball tournament yesterday at the Araneta Coliseum.

"That was Divine intervention. In the last minute, the team was already crying. *Pero sinasabi namin di pa tapos* (But we told ourselves it wasn't over yet)," said ecstatic Letran coach Louie Alas after halting PCU's seven-game winning streak in dramatic fashion.

Less dramatic but similarly significant was San Beda's 57-48 dismissal of top-seed Perpetual Help as Jeff Bombeo and rookie Yousif Aljamal combined for 25 points to lift the Lions past the Altas, who were playing without key player Vladimir Joe.

GAMES WEDNESDAY
(*Rizal Coliseum*)
11:30 a.m.—San Beda vs St. Benilde (Jrs)
*2 p.m.—San Beda vs Perpetual (Srs)
*4 p.m.—Letran vs PCU (Srs)
6 p.m.—Letran vs PCU (Jrs)
**Live on Studio 23*

"Our emphasis has always been defense and we showed it in the third quarter when we limited them to only two points," said Lions coach Nash Racela.

Letran's JP Alcaraz topscored with 15 points, while rookie Mark Andaya added 14.

The Knights were preparing to head for the exit after Robert Sanz drained his charities in the last 12 seconds for a 64-62 PCU lead.

But Boyet Bautista dribbled the length of the court, drove down the middle to draw the defense to him, then made a mighty kick-off pass to the waiting Aldave who delivered the night's most dramatic basket.

The Knights, playing minus star guard Ronjay Enrile, who served out a one-game suspension for allegedly choking San Sebastian's Leo Najorda, trailed most of the game.

Letran scored five straight points to bite into a 55-62 deficit in the final two minutes.

San Beda opened the second half with a 9-0 charge for a 37-29 advantage, as Perpetual struggled offensively without Joe, (average 12 ppg), and finished with only two points in the third period, the lowest points scored in one quarter for the season.

The Lions remained unstoppable in the final period as they erected a 15-point buffer, 50-35, midway in the fourth quarter.

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Saving All My Love For You by *Whitney Houston*	JAS7
The Way You Look Tonight by *Frank Sinatra*	JAS8
Breathe by *Faith Hill*	JAS9
Crazy Little Thing Called Love by *Elvis*	JAS10
If I Ain't Got You by *Alicia Keys*	JAS11
Natural Woman by *Aretha Franklin*	JAS12

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Pressure high in Ateneo-FEU clash

STANDINGS	W	L
Ateneo	10	3
FEU	10	3
La Salle	10	4
UE	8	6
UP	7	7
Adamson	4	9
UST	4	9
NU	1	13

GAMES TODAY
(Araneta Coliseum)
11:30 a.m.—Adamson vs UST (Jrs)
*2 p.m.—Adamson vs UST (Srs)
*4 p.m.—Ateneo vs FEU (Srs)
**Live on Studio 23*

INTENSITY is expected to soar sky-high when defending champion Far Eastern Tamaraws and the Ateneo Eagles wrestle for the top spot in the UAAP senior basketball tournament today at the Araneta Coliseum.

To the winner goes the enviable twice-to-beat advantage and the relatively easier task of facing fourth-seed University of the East in the semifinals.

Woe to the loser as it will still have to clash with the streaking La Salle Archers in a playoff for the No. 2 spot.

"We need this. If we win, it will be the first time for us to top the standings because it has been Ateneo all the way. And we want to enter the Final Four on a winning note," said FEU coach Koy Banal.

It's not however a matter of who wants it more, but who could handle the pressure better.

Ateneo mentor Sandy Arespacochaga is also pumped up for today's crucial matchup. "We're looking forward to it, we're excited about it," he said.

In the other senior game, the University of Sto. Tomas Tigers try to score their first win in the second round against the similarly skidding Adamson Falcons at 1:30 p.m.

Ateneo triumphed over FEU, 67-64, in their first round encounter via another clutch three-pointer from playmaker LA Tenorio.

Eagles forward Doug Kramer will serve his one-game suspension today after being slapped two unsportsmanlike fouls.

Sans Kramer, the rebounding chores for the Eagles will fall heavily on the slam-dunking JC Intal, Paolo Bugia and 6-foot-5 sophomore Claiford Arao.

The Tamaraws will again draw firepower from MVP race pacesetter Arwind Santos, versatile Mark Isip and playmaker Etok Miranda.

Meanwhile, the playoff match between La Salle and the loser of the Ateneo-FEU clash on Tuesday has been moved to Araneta Coliseum at 3:30 p.m. It was originally set at Philsports. *Jasmine W. Payo*

2007 ABC could be ticket to Olympics

MEMBERS of the 1972 RP Olympic team in Munich: Clockwise from top left: Jimmy Mariano, former Sen.Freddie Webb, the late Rogelio Melencio and Ed Ocampo, and three-time PBA MVP Bogs Adornado (center).

By June Navarro

THE PHILIPPINES needs the vital ingredients, like private funding and government support, if it hopes to host the Asian Basketball Confederation championships in 2007, which could provide a ticket for the national basketball team to the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

Former ABC secretary-general Mauricio "Moying" Martelino is offering this advice to the Basketball Association of the Philippines if ever the country makes a bid to host the event three years from now.

By rough estimate, the host country will have to cough up at least P6 million to carry out a tournament of such magnitude, something the government and the private sector could possibly bring to fruition, Martelino told the INQUIRER.

"The government will have to come in and lend the organizers a hand while the private sector should give its share on the financial side of the hosting," said Martelino, who spearheaded the country's ABC hosting in 1973.

As executive director of the Manila ABC 21 years ago, Martelino had a grip on the nitty-gritty of handling the affairs of the tournament, from billeting and transportation of the players and officials to the event proper itself.

"We did it before, I see no reason why we can't do it again. Though I admit the task ahead wouldn't be easy, the Manila hosting of the ABC can be done," said Martelino.

The ABC serves as the qualifying tournament to the World Championships and the Olympics. The top two teams in the event will automatically clinch the slots reserved for Asian countries.

The Philippine Basketball Association and the BAP are scheduled to sit down next week to possibly work out a viable program for the national team to hurdle the odds in the ABC and earn a return ticket to the World Championships and the Olympics.

The RP dribblers last saw action in the Olympics during the 1972 Munich Games, two years before they also had a farewell appearance in the 1974 World Basketball Championships in Puerto Rico where they finished 13th.

Led by Jimmy Mariano, Ed Ocampo, Narciso Bernardo, Rogelio Melencio, Freddie Webb, Danilo Florencio, Adriano Papa and Bogs Adornado, the RP basketball team bowed out in the elimination round of the 1972 Olympic Games.

The team lost majority of its games but exacted revenge over Japan, which humbled it in the 1971 Tokyo ABC, and beat Egypt by default.

Martelino stressed that the country should try to impress ABC officials to clinch the hosting.

He explained that the proposal of hosting the ABC should zero in on the handling and scheduling of the games, hotel and accommodation of the teams and officials, transportation, game and practice venues, security and the coverage of the games.

PSC limits facelifting of SEAG venues

By Marc Anthony Reyes

DRASTIC cuts in the cost of repairs mean the refurbishing of government-owned facilities to be used in the 2005 Southeast Asian Games will be limited to the "basic requirements."

Philippine Sports Commission chair Eric Buhain made this clarification yesterday as he singled out the Rizal Memorial Sports Complex and Philsports as priority venues to undergo facelift.

The Philippine SEAG Organizing Committee will meet on Wednesday to discuss venues and cost of repairs, which the agency earlier estimated to run up to P406 million. The amount is on top of the P100 million projected cost of equipment.

"Absolutely, there will be cuts in the budget as much as possible, but not to sacrifice the basic requirement, because they are important," said Buhain without mentioning how much he would drag the budget down.

This came after Philippine Olympic Committee president Celso Dayrit announced that the operational cost of the SEAG, previously pegged at P500 million, will be reduced by half.

The PSC is singling out the Ninoy Aquino Stadium as the first priority for repairs because of the damages it has suffered through the years.

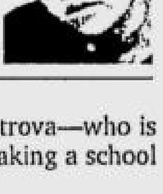
But there will be works needed for the track and field oval, spruced only last year when it hosted the Asian athletics championships. It was the site of the opening ceremonies during the country's two previous hostings in 1981 and 1991.

The SEAG Federation will hold its final meeting on Oct. 11-12 to discuss, among others, the events to be included in each sports discipline and their respective venues.

PSC sources said it helped a lot that at least 15 of the sports disciplines will be held outside Metro Manila which would spread the demands of sports facilities. Subic Bay Freeport, Cebu City and Bacolod will host five events each.

Russian invasion

SPECTATOR



Al S. Mendoza

I SAW how Nadia Petrova demolished Justine Henin-Hardenne on Tuesday night on Dream Satellite TV. I couldn't care less if Nadia has made it to the next round by the time this piece comes out. I wrote this in advance to fulfill a commitment in the country. What I do care, want to remember, was how Nadia put away Justine in two sets: Merciless, to put it mildly.

The score told it all: 6-3, 6-2.

I was all set to hit the sack when I decided to make a "once over" for the TV shows that night. I was a bit tired from three major schedules that day—a stint at the PBA Chairman's Cup at Wack Wack, what with Andy Jao, Ed Picson and Dr. John Lim of Red Bull Barako as my flightmates. It wasn't only fun, it was a riot. Dr. Lim, a noted surgeon at the Chinese General Hospital, was loaded with jokes and he really traded rib-ticklers with Dr. J in wild abandon. Ed and I had the laugh of our lives for almost 18 holes. From Wack Wack, I had to attend two more meetings with nice people I haven't seen for quite a while. Thus, when I got home at about 10 p.m. after hitting the road at 5:30 a.m., I figured I had only one good eye; the other one was barely open.

And now this, suddenly right before my eyes, the Petrova-Henin-Hardenne duel on TV.

Hey, this was the fourth round of the US Open ladies, the final major of the tennis season. And Petrova, the tall Russian, was making mincemeat of Henin-Hardenne.

I asked myself: Is this for real? I mean, are my eyes still really OK? Is Petrova—who is she, anyway?—ahead and making a school girl out of Henin-Hadenne?

Look, Petrova is a mere No. 14. Henin-Hardenne is the defending champion, the No. 1 player in the world. Petrova, at 22, hasn't won a WTA Tour singles title.

Henin-Hardenne is the tournament top seed, the winner of a bundle already. And yet, here she was, scrambling for points against a Russian nondescript, whose forehands had the slash of a samurai, backhands the speed of sound.

What's happening, Martina? Billie? Steffi?

What's happening, Pete? Bjorn? Jimmy?

Even George W. Bush has no answer to that, I guess.

It would have been all right if Petrova had pulled out a thriller, a dramatic win such as a cliffhanger or something. But, son of a beach, none of that happened.

Petrova played as though she was the teacher and not the student, won as though she was the one with a doctorate and not the undergrad.

Move over reality, make way for fantasy.

Are the Russians really coming, or have they actually arrived?

Anastasia Myskina won the French Open in June to become the first Russian woman to pocket a Grand Slam singles title.

A fluke from Kremlin?

Think again, fellas.

In July, Maria Sharapova won Wimbledon to make it back-to-back victories for Russians in the majors, an unprecedented feat that no one can explain why such phenomenon could happen so quickly and so suddenly. Einstein, if he were around, might have spent nights with his calculus figuring out with all his genius—and still come out blank.

Ah, those Russian invaders. What are they up to really?

Oh, well, wasn't it only a while back that ladies tennis was in the grip of another Russian, Anna Kournikova?

Umm, yes, but all Anna did was display her whistle-bait figure and none of the stuff that makes women win Grand Slam crowns. Truth is, she was earning more from her shoes/apparel endorsements than from stints on the courts. Today, Anna K has hied off to where she really belongs: the ramp, where she could earn more minus the skin-peeling glare of the sun that she will always have to contend with when wielding that racket.

But with Nadia Petrova, I think it will be different. Like, Myskina and Sharapova, Petrova seems bent on making the Russian invasion for real.

Wanna bet?

SPORTSWATCH

Triple V, Media golfers renew rivalry

MEDIA and Triple V golfers try to settle last year's unresolved contest when they resume their rivalry in the 18th Triple V-Media Golf Classic on Monday at the Aguinaldo Golf Club. The two teams ended their rain-shortened dual meet last year in an improbable tie and will attempt to settle that in this year's contest, dubbed the third Tito Eduque Memorial Cup, in honor of the late founder and chair of the Triple V Group of Restaurants. Eduque, also a former national basketball coach, would have turned 77 last Aug. 26. He died in November 2001. A total of 80 players—40 from each team—have been invited to the annual 18-hole event pitting media golfers against Triple V Golf Club members. Tee-off time is 6:30 a.m. with award ceremonies to be held across Edsa at the Kamayan-Saisaki. Last year, the two teams battled through rain, flood, mud, lightning and thunder but ended up in a tie at 317 strokes apiece after nine holes.

BEST is the best program–Trinidad

PHILIPPINE Basketball League Commissioner Chino Trinidad believes the Milo BEST (Basketball Efficiency Scientific Training Center) is the best among the numerous youth basketball programs in the country. "No doubt, BEST is the best program," says Trinidad. "For years, it has produced a number of quality players who are currently playing in the big leagues." He also notes that the Small Basketeers Philippines (SBP) and Passerelle tournaments are good for the development of basketball in the country. Asked about the Ateneo-La Salle matchups in the 198th SBP-Passerelle regional championships, he said: "It's a dream matchup." The Ateneo-La Salle final matches, both won by the Eagles, will be aired from 5 to 8 p.m. today on Solar Sports TV.

TRS to hold Circuit Car Classes

THE TUASON Racing School (TRS) will hold Circuit Car Classes on Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 18 and 19, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Batangas Racing Circuit in Rosario, Batangas. The classes will be conducted in two parts: the Basic Class, which will be held on Saturday, Sept. 18; and the Advance Class, which is scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 19. For minimal fees of P5,000 and P7,500 for the basic and advance classes, respectively, students will be taught the finer points of driving a racing car by TRS president and race driver JP Tuason. Students who enroll in both classes on the same weekend may avail of a package rate of P11,000 and enjoy a discount of P1,500. For information, visit the Tuason Racing School at 640 Boni Avenue, Mandaluyong City or call (632) 531-2962 and 0918-9297859, fax 535-4769 or log on to www.tuasonracing.com.

Blaze Shootout Drag Race set today

DRAG racers will once again see action as the second leg of the Petron Blaze Shootout National Drag Race Championship Series blasts off today at the spur road inside Clark Economic Zone in Pampanga. After a week of heavy downpours, the skies finally cleared for the event, which drew teams from Manila and nearby provinces like Dagupan, Bulacan, Cabanatuan, Baguio, Pangasinan and Pampanga. Current series leaders Joey Galang (MOH Speed) and Nelson Pamintuan, both with 50 points, are expected to join the race. The Petron Blaze Shootout National Drag Race Championship Series is organized by Activity Asia Association and sanctioned by the Automobile Association of the Philippines.

Gear up for North Face Challenge

THE NORTH Face Challenge, an adventure and endurance race where competitors get to test their physiques, skills and wits, will highlight the Flight Series on Sept. 25 at Eastwood Libis. The North Face is a 60-kilometer racecourse event that features mountain biking, trail running, rappelling, tyrolean traverse, river tubing and a variety of physical and mental challenges. Team champions in the All Male category will take home P20,000. Champions in the Mixed Group category will be awarded P20,000 plus The North Face premium items and trophies. Racers may register at the Accredited Registration Centers at all Bratpack outlets, Travel Club shop at SM Megamall, Glorietta, SM Cebu, SM Marilao, Shangri-La Mall, Greenhills, Baguio and Cebuweek.store. They may log on to www.tnfrace.com and accomplish the registration form online.

'Ringside' returns on ABC-5 today

'RINGSIDE' returns on ABC-5 from 4-5 p.m. today featuring the country's premier boxing prospects. In the preliminary bout, Ruther del Castillo of Cebu City's ALA Stable faces tough Korean Park Cheon Su in four rounds at 112 lbs. Presented by the Galorde Enterprises Inc., the main event features Danny Boy Bontilao against Rey Martizano in eight rounds. The fights were part of a boxing program held in Mandaue City recently.

Dagupan meet lures top cyclists

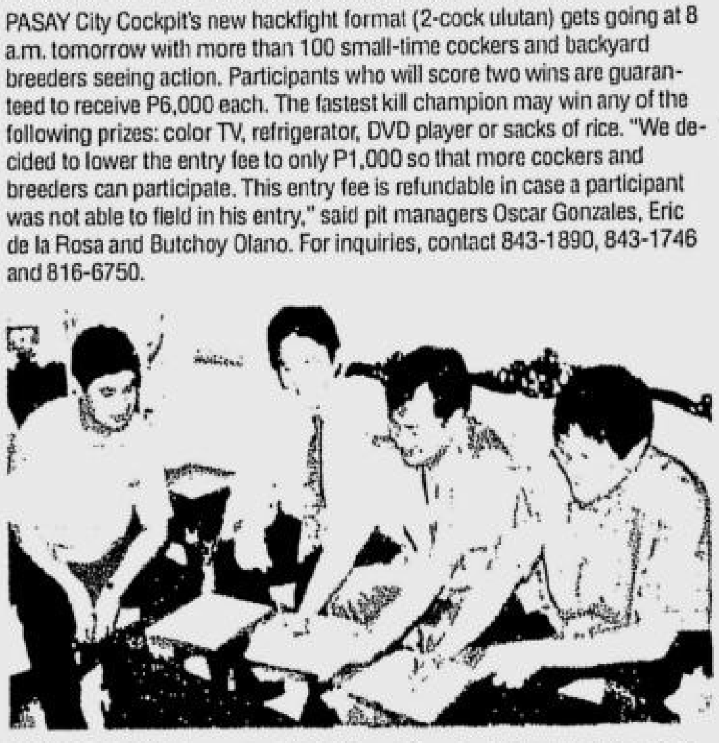
THE COUNTRY'S top cyclists see action in tomorrow's Criterion Race that pits Pagcor against the RP team in Dagupan City. Pagcor will be led by Tour Pilipinas champion Ryan Taguiling, Victor Espiritu and Merculio Ramos. The RP team is composed of Arnel Quirimit, Warren Davadilla and Enrique Domingo. The race is backed up by Air 21, Speed Detergent soap, Pagcor, PCSO, Fed-Ex and Dagupan City Mayor Benjie Lim.

Four entries share GCAP crown

FOUR entries emerged co-champions in the first leg of "Gentlemen Cockers Association of the Philippines (GCAP) 5-Stag Derby Series" last Monday at the air-conditioned Las Piñas Coliseum. Tougher action is expected during the second leg (5-stag) at 6 p.m. on Monday as GCAP members parade anew their young and untested fighters. The champions, who tallied four wins and one loss each, were sabong idol Patrick Antonio (Sagupaan Complexor 3000), Gerry Ramos (Kamandag), Benjie Lim (Love U Papa) and Blandy Tolentino (San Pablo Heat). Runner-up finishers with three points were Sonny Lagon (Blue Blade), Pol Estrellado and Boy Royo (PEBR), Ramon Mancenares (EDL Farms), Maj. Bobby Doromal (Allied Forces), Ryochi Saito and Bulljack Fortaleza (Super Ninja BL) and Father and Son entry. Coliseum manager Alex Tobias said the GCAP 5-Stag Derby Series (seven big-time derbies) is scheduled every Monday. For inquiries, contact 874-3910 and 873-1040.

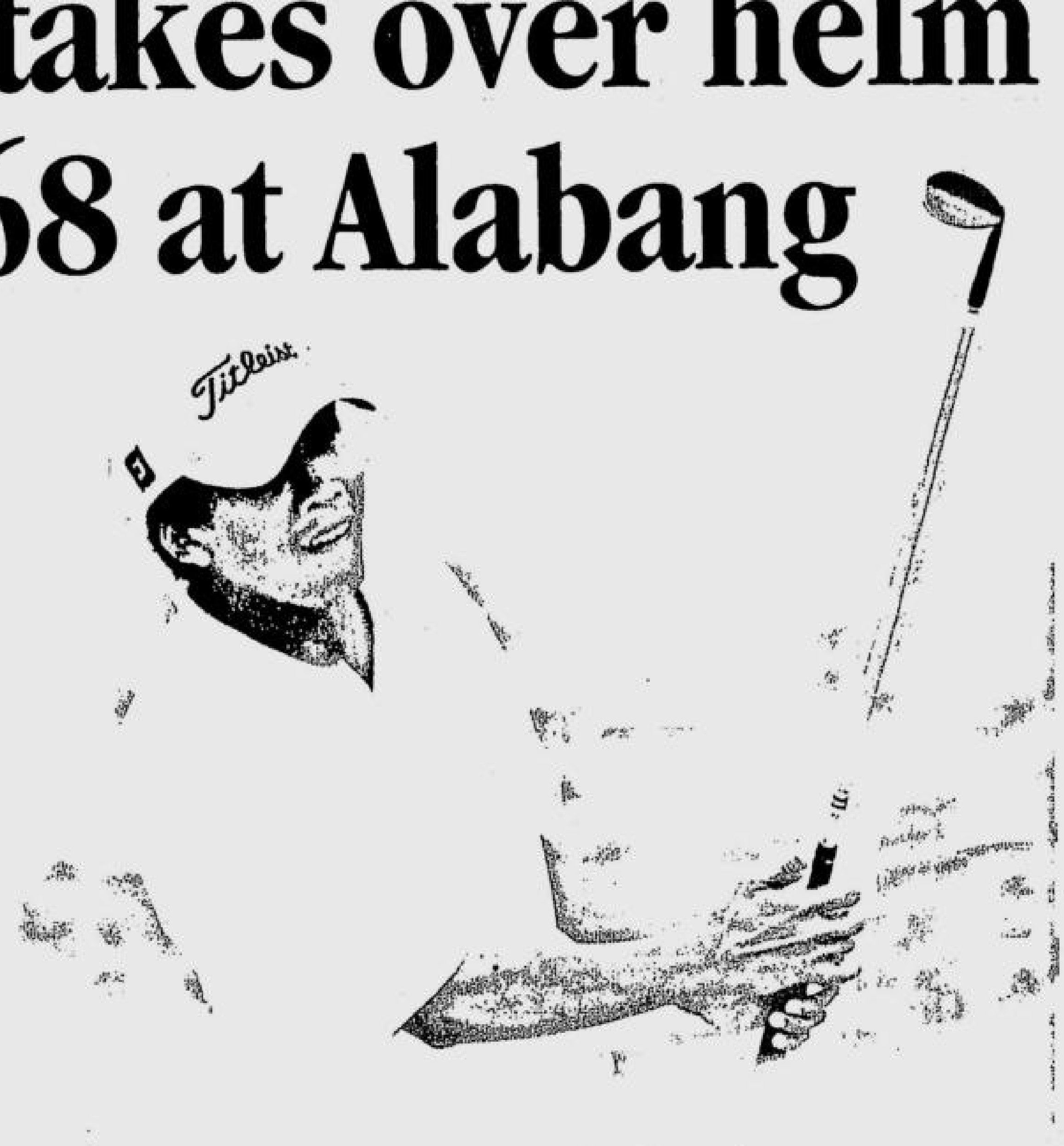
2-cock ulutan at PCC tomorrow

PASAY City Cockpit's new hackfight format (2-cock ulutan) gets going at 8 a.m. tomorrow with more than 100 small-time cockers and backyard breeders seeing action. Participants who will score two wins are guaranteed to receive P6,000 each. The fastest kill champion may win any of the following prizes: color TV, refrigerator, DVD player or sacks of rice. "We decided to lower the entry fee to only P1,000 so that more cockers and breeders can participate. This entry fee is refundable in case a participant was not able to field in his entry," said pit managers Oscar Gonzales, Eric de la Rosa and Butchoy Olano. For inquiries, contact 843-1890, 843-1746 and 816-6750.


CHESS HOST: Tagaytay City Mayor Bambol Tolentino (second from right) signs the contract of agreement with the National Chess Federation of the Philippines accepting to host the Grand Finals of the Philippine team's qualifying tournament to the World Chess Olympiad. The event is slated Sept. 18-29 at the Tagaytay International Convention Center. From left are NCFP director Willie Abalos, GM Eugene Torre and NCFP secretary general lawyer Sammy Estimo.

Juvic takes over helm with 68 at Alabang

By Musong R. Castillo



NICE AND EASY: Juvic Pagunsan cracks par for the second straight round. ROMY HOMILLADA

JUVIC Pagunsan shot a four-under 68 in ideal conditions at Alabang yesterday to reclaim the lead in the evaluation series for the World Amateur golf team as former RP champ Artemio Murakami failed to keep in step.

Regarded as the country's finest amateur, Pagunsan gunned down five birdies against a lone bogey, cracking par for the second time in four days to pool a 285 total after the first half of the 144-hole series.

The field takes a three-day break before playing the last four rounds at the Canlubang, Villamor, Aguinaldo and Manila Golf layouts starting Tuesday.

Tied for the lead at the start of the round, Murakami double bogeyed No.1 and failed to regroup from there. He ballooned to a 79 to drop to fourth spot with a 296 total.

Marvin Dumandan and Jun Bernis, the veterans who failed to show their worth in the recent Putra Cup in Indonesia, matched Juvic's 68 to totally shake up the standings.

Dumandan climbed to second, three shots off the pace, even as Bernis, the reigning RP Amateur champ, broke par for the first time since Indonesia to be 11 shots behind, in the company of Murakami.

Michael Bibat silently made his way to third position after a steady 71, nine adrift and six behind Dumandan.

Bibat flies to Singapore tomorrow together with Boyet Saragoza to take part in the Singapore Amateur at the Serapong Golf Club starting Tuesday. Officials of the National Golf Association of the Philippines said the duo's scores in the prestigious championship will be carried over to the NGAP series.

"I lost my head after that double," Murakami said. "This is a big thing for me. I'd like to show everyone that I deserve a spot in the national team."

"There are 72 holes left and I will prepare even harder for next week," added Murakami, who, as a 15-year-old, won the 1999 RP Amateur but has never made it to the national team in his career.

JR Tanpinco turned in another 76 and stood at 302, with Saragoza in seventh spot with a 305 after a 73.

Gabi vows KO victory vs Thai idol

By Salven L. Lagumbay, *Contributor*

WORLD flyweight crown challenger Diosdado "Prince" Gabi, feeling superbly conditioned, yesterday vowed to go for a knockout win in his Oct. 8 title clash against Thai boxing idol Pongsaklek Wonjongkam in Phuket, Thailand.

A native of Davao now fighting out of North Cotabato, Gabi, 24, showed off steely abdominal muscles and confided he has never trained as hard in his nine-year professional career.

"*Iniaalay ko ang laban sa mga kababayan, sa aking pamilya at sa aking magiging anak* (I'm offering this fight to my countrymen, to my family and to my unborn child)," Gabi, who said his first son is scheduled to be born exactly on his championship date in Phuket, said during yesterday's SCOOP sa Kamayan weekly session.

Enjoying the same training that universal featherweight king Manny Pacquiao gets from Freddie Roach in the United States, Gabi is now about "90 percent" ready for the most crucial challenge to the World Boxing Council flyweight title held by Wongjongkam.

This was revealed by Buboy Fernandez, Pacquiao's trainer, who handled Gabi's training in the last four weeks at the L&M Gym in Manila.

Fernandez left for California with Pacquiao on Wednesday, and Gabi's training and conditioning have been left to Bebot Valindez and Bruce Lerio.

"Everything that Buboy Fernandez learned from Freddie Roach, he applied to Gabi, and my ward is fully confident he can wrest the crown," said Socrates Piñol, Gabi's manager and younger brother of North Cotabato Gov. Manny Piñol.

Gabi (21-2-1, 16 KOs) is ranked WBC No. 8.

Wongjongkam (52-2, 29 KOs) is making the 11th defense of the crown he took from RP's Malcolm Tuñacao via a first-round stoppage in March 2001.

Wongjongkam, 27, enjoys cult following in Thailand and holds the quickest knockout defense in flyweight history after he stopped Japanese Daisuke Naito in 34 seconds in April 2002.

The Wongjongkam-Gabi clash will be the centerpiece event of the WBC 42nd annual world convention in Phuket on Oct. 3-9.

'Divine' . . .

From page A21

Joe served his one-game suspension for hitting Mapua's Erwin Sta. Maria.

The scores:

FIRST GAME (Srs)

LETRAN 65—Alcaraz 15, Andaya 14, Bautista 11, Aldave 7, Anabo 6, Piñera 4, Aban 4, Santos 2, Rodriguez 2.

PCU 64—Sanz 25, Relaga 16, Espinas 9, Castro 6, Garrido 3, Solis 5, Salangsang 0, Acraman 0, Santos 0, Cecilia 0, Cunanan 0, Acraman 0, Gementiza 0.

Quarters: 15-16, 29-34, 43-46, 65-64.

SECOND GAME (Srs)

SAN BEDA 57—Bombeo 13, Aljamal 12, Bughao 8, Paterno 7, Angeles 6, Hudencial 5, Cordero 3, Arbole 2, Weber 1, Maggay 0, Timonera 0, Soriano 0, Cruz 0, Ong 0 .

PERPETUAL 48—Javier 14, Misa 11, Barnson 8, Cuenco 6, Bauzon 4, Apor 3, Refuerzo 2, Mendoza 0.

Quarters: 14-18, 28-29, 41-31, 57-48

Bangkok holiday staked in Inter-Club badminton

WITH THE TEAM champion assured of a trip to Thailand, keen competition is expected in next month's Inter-Club Platinum Cup, co-presented by INQUIRER Badminton Monthly and Globe Platinum featuring invited courts in Metro Manila and teams from the south.

Dubbed Battle of the Courts, the tournament will conduct area eliminations in which participating courts according to geographical locations will serve as first stage of the tournament also sponsored by Mizuno/Master Sports and Philippine Airlines.

The area eliminations kick off Oct. 2-3 at the Intramuros Badminton Center with the West sector for teams in Caloocan, Valenzuela, Malabon and Manila.

The East sector for Pasig, Marikina, Rizal follows on Oct. 9-10 at the West Drive Badminton Center, then the South for Muntinlupa, Alabang, Las Piñas, Parañaque and Taguig on Oct. 16-17 at the Olivarez College Sports Complex.

Those in the Central area (Makati, Mandaluyong and San Juan) will have their eliminations on Oct. 23 at The Zone and on Oct. 24 at Yonex Phils.

The Olympic Badminton Club will host the biggest sector, the North, for those in Quezon City on Oct. 30-31.

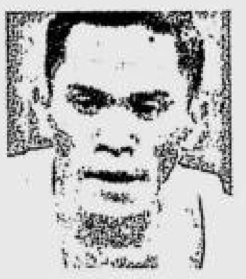
Top teams will advance to the national finals on Nov. 20-21 at the soon-to-open Market! Market! mall at Bonifacio Global City with the winner clinching the Bangkok holiday.

More than P500,000 in prizes are at stake. Each club will be asked to send in a team for men's doubles, women's doubles and mixed doubles. Matches will be best-of-three.

A participant must be a Filipino citizen, a member or regular player of the participating partner court and a bona fide employee of a reputable company. He or she must not have played for any national team, is not currently playing for a collegiate team and not a coach or trainer.

For inquiries, call the INQUIRER Badminton office at 8978808 locals 259 or 261, look for Ching dela Cruz.

King of the Road kicks off Oct. 3



BUENAVISTA

BALLESTER

THE EIGHTH annual Adidas King of the Road kicks off on Oct. 3 in front of the Adidas Sports Kamp at the Fort Bonifacio Global City in Taguig.

More than 2,000 runners are expected to answer the starting gun in the 10-kilometer run, according to race organizer Rudy Biscocho.

Last year's road king, Ali Quisay of Baguio City, is expected to be back to defend his title against tested long-distance runners like Alan Ballester and Eduardo Buenavista. Liza Yambao will also put her Queen of the Road title on the line.

Apart from the purse of P10,000 cash and P10,000 worth of gift certificates plus trophy, the winners will also earn the right to represent the Philippines in the International King of the Road race in South Korea on Oct. 10.

Goody Custodio of Adidas Phils. said special prizes await the best team in complete uniform, the runner with the best uniform, and the best performing team of at least 50 runners based on the aggregate time of its first 25 finishers.

Each participant will receive an Adidas running singlet and a certificate of completion.

Registration will start on Wednesday at the ground floor of the Vasquez Madrigal Building on Annapolis Street, Greenhills, San Juan from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday to Saturday and from 9 a.m. to 12 noon on Sunday. Deadline is on Sept. 29.

'Speedfest' motorsports meet revs up Peñafrancia activities

THE ULTIMATE Red Horse Beer-Smart Buddy Speedfest Championship Series, combining the thrill of motocross and 4x4 Off Road racing, will have its inaugural leg in Naga City today.

A first of its kind, the motorsports spectacle will be part of the Peñafrancia festivities, headed by Mayor Jesse Robredo, to be staged along Naga's new bypass road called the Almeda Highway.

The next leg of the National Offroaders Federation will be staged on Sunday.

A huge crowd of Bicolanos is expected to gather around the venue of the event held through the participation of MP Turbo and sponsored by Red Horse Beer, Smart Buddy, GSM Blue, Universal Motors Corporation distributor of Nissan Frontier, Cebu Pacific, Speed TV, Concepcion Grande Development Inc., Home Radio 95.1 and Caceres Cable.

"We are very fortunate to have Red Horse Beer and Smart Buddy as our strong partners for this new event," said veteran racer Mike Potenciano, Speedfest's project director.

The Caltex Delo Sports Isarog Off Road 4x4 Challenge is organized by the Bicol Offroad Club through the auspices of Jeremie Lo and Jojo Prieto.

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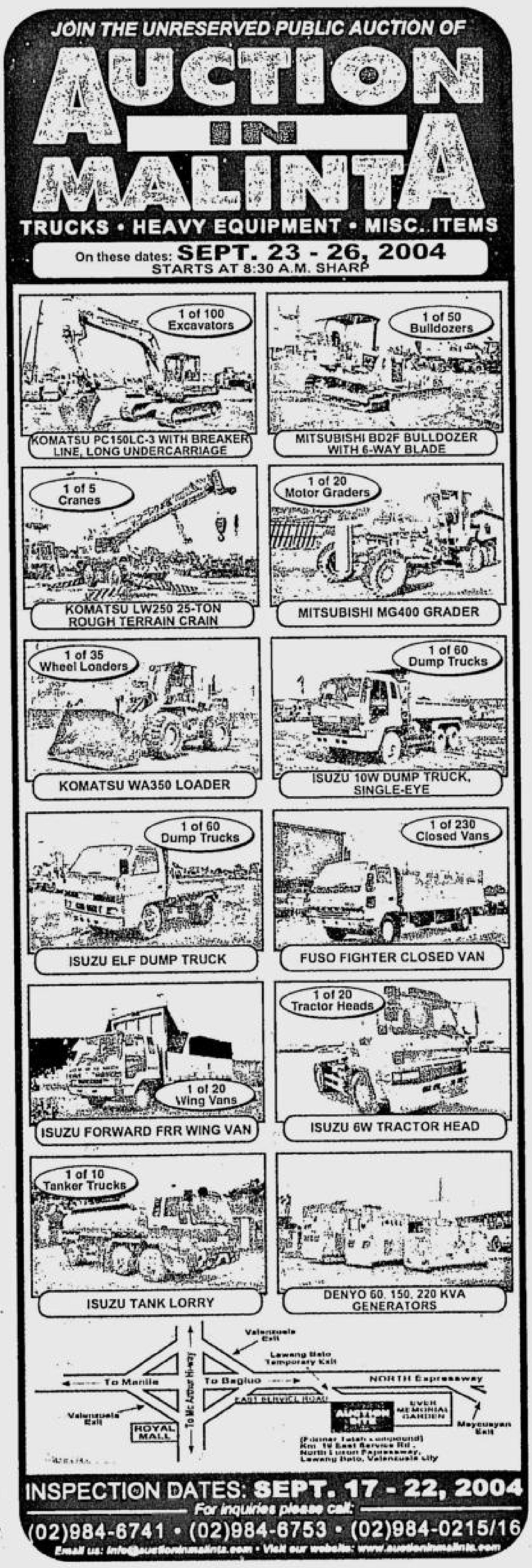

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It's tough figuring who's the Ryder Cup underdog

DAVID Duval finishes his round at even par. REUTERS

BLOOMFIELD HILLS, Michigan—A tale of the tape points to an early knockout in the Ryder Cup.

Five Americans have won major championships, the best measure of poise under pressure. Europe doesn't have a major champion on its team for the first time in the last 10 matches.

The Americans have seven players among world's top 15. Europe has two.

US captain Hal Sutton snatched a sheet of paper from the table and scanned down the list of world rankings, indisputable evidence that his team is deep, talented and should be favored again to win the Ryder Cup, just like it is every other year these two continents get together.

One problem. Europe has captured the cup six of the last nine times, and its dominance would be even greater if not for Justin Leonard making a 45-foot birdie putt to cap off an improbable comeback at Brookline five years ago.

Anyone who thinks the Americans should be favored hasn't been paying attention.

"Everybody always speculates as to why the Europeans fight above their weight, and why the Americans look like heavyweights and fight like featherweights," Sutton said.

"They add up the world ranking, and when you look at the US versus Europe, it's pretty lopsided," he said. "But one great thing about the game of golf is that David beats Goliath sometimes."

"Are we the underdogs?" Phil Mickelson said. "That's a good question. They bring out their best game in the event, and we have not in years past."

The Americans will try to change that in the 35th Ryder Cup, which starts next Friday at Oakland Hills Country Club in Detroit. *AP*

Obscure pro grabs Canadian Open lead

OAKVILLE, Canada—Ignoring weather delays that left 76 golfers still on the course when darkness fell, American Joey Sindelar fired a five-under par 66 to claim the clubhouse lead at the PGA Canadian Open.

The start was delayed five hours by the remnants of Hurricane Frances, forcing the round to resume early Friday, weather permitting, with plans to begin the second round later Friday morning.

Sindelar seized a two-stroke lead with a wild round that included seven birdies and two bogeys. He finished with a seven-foot birdie putt at the ninth hole after starting on the 10th hole.

American Pat Perez was second at 68 with five golfers, including Sweden's Jesper Parnevik, on 69 in quest of a $792,000 top prize.

New world No. 1 Vijay Singh managed to finish only five holes and it was hardly a spectacular start to his reign. He began on the back nine, made a triple bogey at 11, birdied the 13th and made a bogey on the 14th hole.

Many of the top American and European players, including second-ranked Tiger Woods, skipped the event to prepare for next week's Ryder Cup.

Sindelar, 46, won in May at Charlotte to snap a title drought of more than 13 years, the third-longest gap between triumphs in US PGA history. *AFP*

Annika returns from layoff

BROKEN ARROW, Oklahoma—World number one Annika Sorenstam of Sweden returns to the LPGA Tour after a month-long absence here Friday at the 54-hole Hammons Hotel Classic.

Sorenstam, who leads the LPGA money list with $1.665 million, has won four of her 12 starts this year, including a major at the LPGA Championship in June.

Her three second-place efforts include the US Women's Open, the last time she played a US event. Sorenstam was second at France's Evian Masters and shared 13th at the Women's British Open last month.

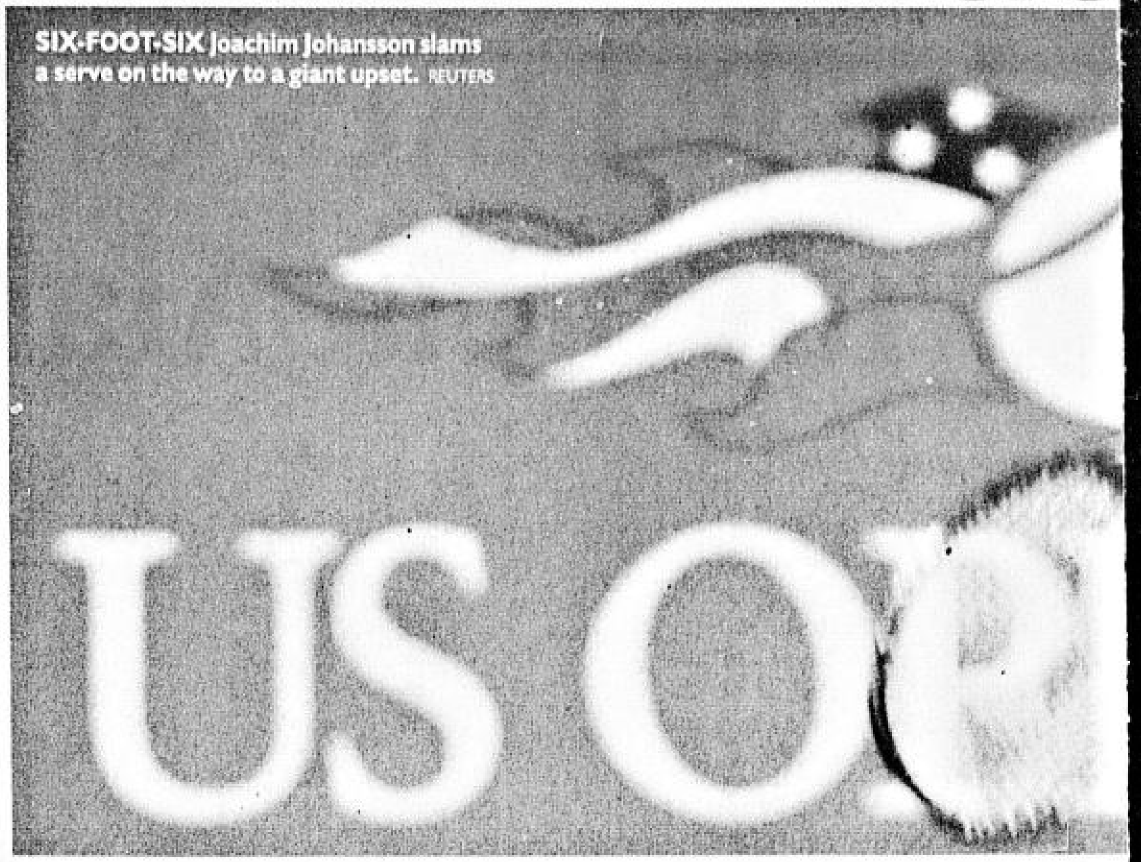
"I've had four weeks off so I'm happy to be here," Sorenstam said. "I normally don't have four weeks off in the summer but it just turned out to be that this year. I played in Europe three weeks and needed a long break."

American Meg Mallon is second on the money list with $1.288 million after winning three of her past seven starts.

American Cristie Kerr, who won her third tournament of the year last week, and Mexican Lorena Ochoa, fourth on the money list behind Kerr, are not entered. But 16 of the top 20 money winners are.

That list includes two-time winner Karen Stupples of Britain, South Korea's Grace Park, Australian Karrie Webb and Jennifer Rosales of the Philippines.

Webb won last year's event by nine shots with a 10-under-par 200 at the Tulsa Country Club. *AFP*



SIX-FOOT-SIX Joachim Johansson slams a serve on the way to a giant upset. REUTERS

Americans oust

Swede upsets defending champ

NEW YORK—Andy Roddick ran into a bold, bigger version of himself at the US Open, and 6-foot-6 Joachim Johansson sent the defending champion home.

Roddick was upset, 6-4, 6-4, 3-6, 2-6, 6-4, Thursday night by another 22-year-old brandishing a powerful serve and forehand, but also someone who's won just one title, was playing in his first major quarterfinal, and who started the year ranked 113th.

Not only that, but Johansson never had played a five-set match before. Yet there he was, smacking serves at 141 mph, outslugging the American from the baseline during extended exchanges, saving two break points late, and ending the match by breaking Roddick.

Less surprising was Andre Agassi's exit earlier Thursday. He was up against No. 1 Roger Federer of Switzerland, who won, 6-3, 2-6, 7-5, 3-6, 6-3, in a quarterfinal suspended by rain early in the fourth set the night before and wrapped up in the worst of swirling winds.

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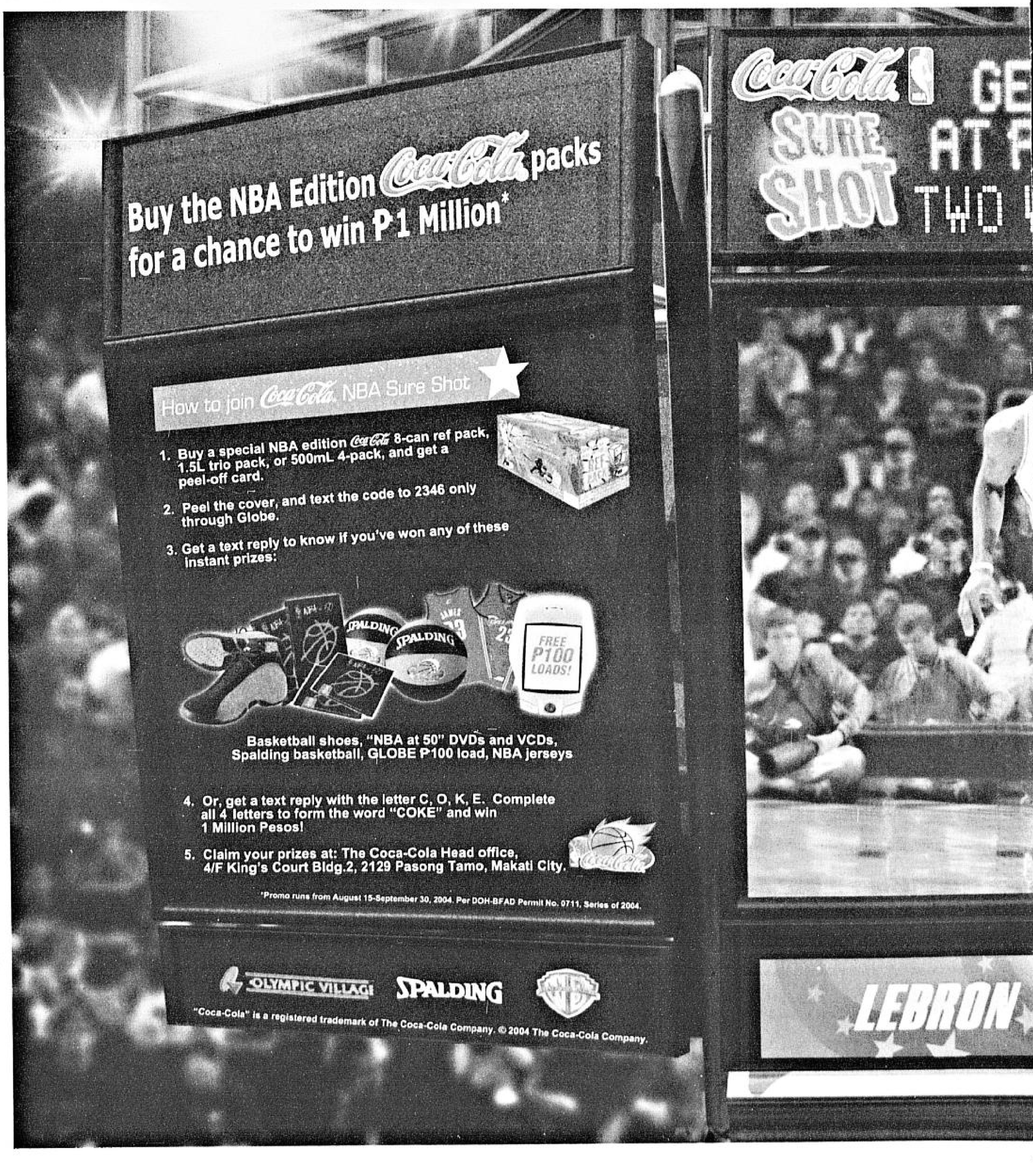

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OLYMPIC VILLAGE SPALDING

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Roddick; Federer dumps Agassi

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ce, Johansson held serve after being down love-40; once, he broke Roddick after trailing 40-love.

In the final game of the match, No. 2 Roddick fell behind love-40 with a double-fault, saved two match points thanks to big serves, then sailed a backhand long on the third. Up at the net for a postmatch handshake, the 6-2 Roddick reached up to tap Johansson on the chest.

Roddick found himself playing the way opponents try to negate his power-packed game, standing way behind the baseline, resorting to guesswork on returns, and hitting to the backhand. After dumping one return into the net, Roddick flipped his racket in the air and lamented, "Oh, my God!"

And Roddick seemed generally uncomfortable, arguing the occasional call, questioning a line judge's position, and standing with hands on hips as if he didn't want to leave the court for what turned out to be a 55-minute rain delay after being broken to 3-2 in the first set.

When they returned to action, Roddick missed a backhand on the first point, then pointed and snapped "Sit down!" at spectators slow getting to their seats. Johansson went on to win the first set with a forehand winner down the line. *AP*

Davenport hopes to fan streak, claim No. 1 rank

NEW YORK—No. 1 is gone. So is No. 2. The French Open champion and the Wimbledon champion left days ago and the Williams sisters were done soon after that.

Still, the US Open has some headline players set for Friday's women's semifinal matches, with the No. 1 ranking hanging on the outcome.

No. 5-seeded Lindsay Davenport faces No. 9 Svetlana Kuznetsova, and No. 8 Jennifer Capriati plays No. 6 Elena Dementieva with the winners advancing to Saturday night's final.

They are the survivors after defending champion Justine Henin-Hardenne, No. 2 Amelie Mauresmo, No. 3 Serena Williams, French Open champion Anastasia Myskina and Wimbledon winner Maria Sharapova all bowed out of the tournament.

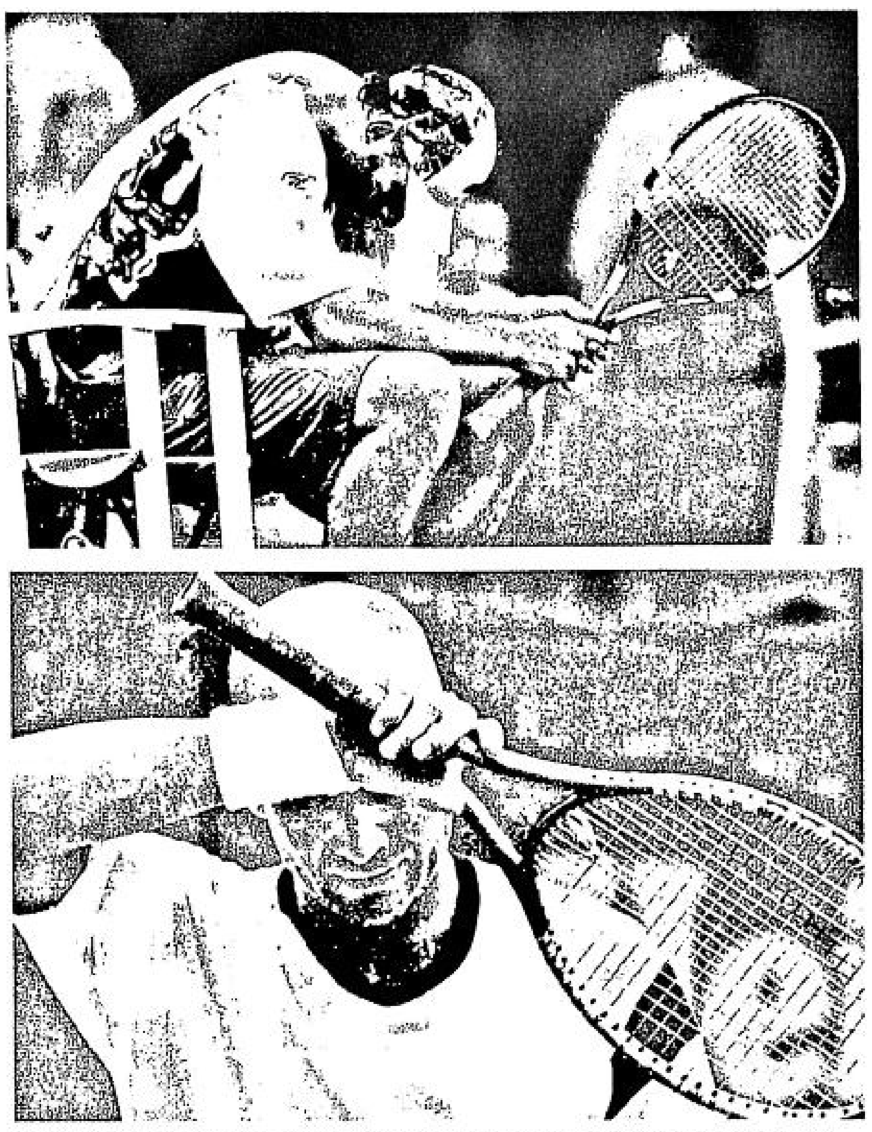
This is the first time in the Open Era that none of the top four seeds made it to the semifinals of the US Open. Still the matchups offer a lot of intrigue, especially for Davenport, seeking her second US Open title.

Kuznetsova, Dementieva and Capriati have never played for the US Open crown. The stakes are highest, however, for Davenport, the 1998 winner, who arrived at the season's final Grand Slam event as the hottest player on the women's tour with four straight hardcourt tournament victories.

She has won 22 consecutive matches and if she wins this event, she will claim the No. 1 ranking in women's tennis. If Davenport loses to either Kuznetsova or in the final, then the top spot goes to No. 2 Amelie Mauresmo, who lost in the quarterfinals to Dementieva and has never won a Grand Slam tournament.

Since losing to Sharapova at Wimbledon, Davenport has dropped just three sets and swept four events leading up to the Open. She has won the last 16 sets she has played and defeated Japan's Shinobu Asagoe, 6-1, 6-1, in just 46 minutes in the quarterfinals.

Kuznetsova, just 19, has never been this far in a Grand Slam event. She earned her way here defeating Russian Nadia Petrova in the quarters after Petrova sent Henin-Hardenne home. *AP*



THE OUSTER of Andre Agassi and Andy Roddick (top) left no American in the men's semifinals for the first time since 1986. REUTERS

Unera eyes NBDL stint

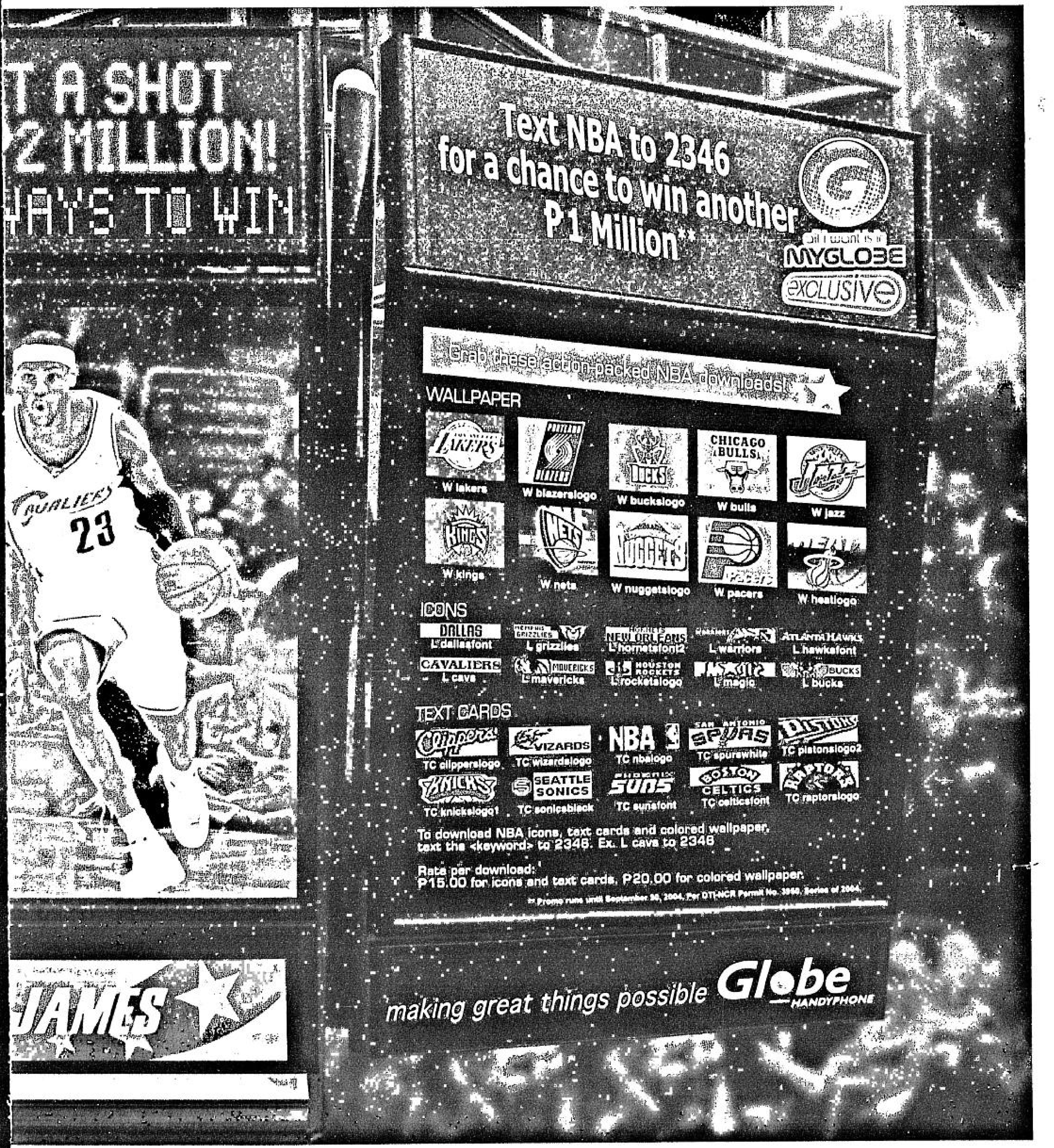
SAM Unera, the first Filipino to partly own a champion team in the United States Basketball League, is branching out to the National Basketball Developmental League in his desire to bring more Filipino players to see action in America. Already credited with bringing Paul Alvarez and Vince Hizon to the Pennsylvania Valleydawgs, Unera disclosed that by buying a franchise in the NBDL, he can help Filipino cagers make it to the NBA. "My plan is to bring top Filipino players to the US so they can have a shot at the NBA," Unera said during yesterday's Scoop sa Kamayan.

Six share derby title

THUNDERBIRD-user Romano Castillo of Tiaong, Quezon, via his JV Roanne entry, and five other bets posted 6 wins and a loss apiece to share championship honors in the just-concluded 18th Annual Ray-Showdown 7-Stag Derby held at the Roligon Mega Cockpit. Equaling Castillo's performance were John Pe, Romy Tan and tabloid executive Rey Briones. The Thunderbird-backed event participated in by 102 breeders from all over the country was jointly hosted by Danny Ty and lawyer Romero Yu.

Whitewater race slated

THE PHILIPPINE Association of Whitewater Rafters Inc. announced that they are accepting until Sept. 30 entries for the 2nd National Whitewater Rafting Race on Oct. 15-17 along the Cagayan de Oro River. May Salvaña, officer of the PAWWR, said the race is open to teams of four (composed of men and women) at least 18 years old and physically fit. A maximum of 20 teams are expected to compete this year. For information, call 0918417405 or 09177073583, or visit www.cebuweek.com.



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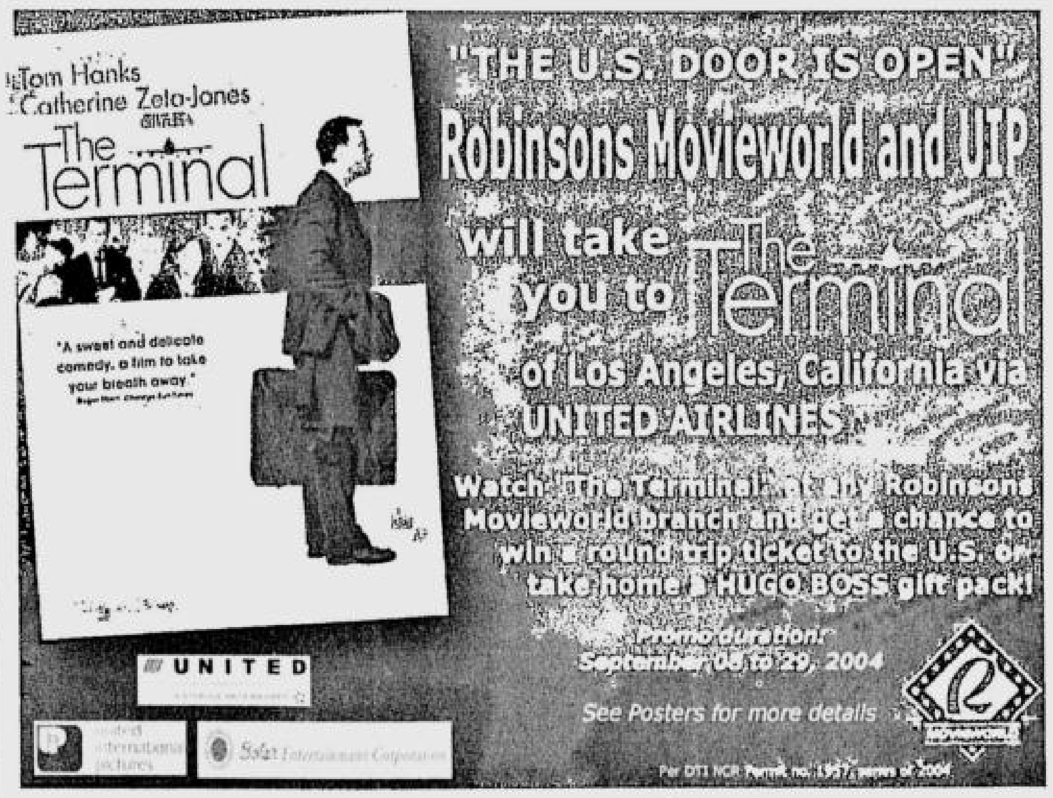
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1 (DOLBY) THE NOTEBOOK
PG - 13 / FS : 12:30PM, 3:15PM, 6:00PM, LMF: 8:55PM

2 (DOLBY) THE TERMINAL
GP

3 (DOLBY) PRINCESS DIARIES 2
GP / FS : 11:30AM, 2:05PM, 4:40PM, 7:15PM LMF: 9:50PM

4 (DOLBY) DODGEBALL
PG-13 / FS : 12:10PM, 2:25PM, 4:40PM, 6:55PM LMF: 9:10PM

PREMIERE

(DOLBY) ANACONDAS
PG-13 / FS: 12:50PM, 3:05PM, 5:20PM, 7:35PM, LMF: 9:50PM

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1. (DOLBY) TOOLBOX MURDER
2. ANACONDAS
3. TAG-INIT
4. THE TERMINAL
5. DODGEBALL

Gotesco Grand Central
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1
2 UNDERWORLD
3 NAGDADALAGA
4 (SDDS) TAG-INIT
5 THE TERMINAL
6 (DOLBY) DODGEBALL
7 (DTS) ANACONDAS
8 RESERVE
9 RESERVE

Masagana CINEMA
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1 THE TERMINAL
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3 TAG-INIT

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1 RESERVE
2 RESERVE
3 TAG-INIT
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL EX) ANACONDAS
5 GODSEND

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1 YOUNG VIRGIN
2 TAG-INIT
3 TOOLBOX MURDER
4 GODSEND
5 (DOLBY) ANACONDAS
6 DODGEBALL

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1 (DOLBY) ANACONDAS
2 BOLD AFFAIR

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1 (DDS) GODSEND
2 (SDDS) ANACONDAS
3 (DTS) THE TERMINAL
4 GOLD (DTS) DODGEBALL
5 GOLD (DOLBY) THE NOTEBOOK
6 GOLD (SDDS) THE TERMINAL
7 GOLD (DOLBY) ANACONDAS
8 [illegible] TOOLBOX MURDER
9 [illegible] HAUNTED SPIRIT
10 [illegible] PRINCESS DIARIES 2

THE CENTER OF ENTERTAINMENT Araneta Center
ALI MALL CINEPLEX
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3 (Dolby) ANACONDAS
4 (SDDS) THE TERMINAL
5 (DTS) DODGEBALL
6 (Dolby) TOOL BOX MURDER
7 (Dolby) GODSEND

MARKETPLACE
Mandaluyong tel 533.3851 / 533.3856

1 ANACONDAS
2 DODGEBALL
3 TAG-INIT
4 TOOLBOX MURDER

Jade Cinema
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1 (DOLBY EX) OPENS SEPTEMBER 16, 2004
2 OPENS SEPTEMBER 16, 2004
3 (DTS ES) OPENS SEPTEMBER 16, 2004
4 OPENS SEPTEMBER 16, 2004

Cine Nepo
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.0121

1 ELLA ENCHANTED
2 AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS
3 (DOLBY) ANACONDAS
4 (DTS) STEPFORD WIVES

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1 DEAD PEOPLE
2 WEREWOLF (GINGER SNAP-2)
3 (DOLBY) CONNIE & CARLA
4 (DTS) ALIEN VS, PREDATOR

Centre Plaza Cinema
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2 STEPFORD WIVES

EASTWOOD CINEMAS
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1 (DOLBY) THE NOTEBOOK
2 (DOLBY) THE TERMINAL
3 (DOLBY) DODGEBALL
4 (DOLBY) ANACONDAS

CINEMA 2000
Movie Theatres of the New Millenium

Cinema 2000 Target Mall
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1 STEPFORD WIVES
2 THE TERMINAL
3 (DTS) ANACONDAS

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383

1 STEPFORD WIVES
2 (DTS) THE TERMINAL
3 (DOLBY) ANACONDAS
4 RING - 0

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) tel (049) 411.1146

1 BULLETS
2 (DOLBY) ANACONDAS
3 (DTS) THE TERMINAL
4 STEPFORD WIVES

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
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1 WEREWOLF (GINGER SNAP-2)
2 CHRONICLE OF RIDDICK
3 (DOLBY) ALIEN VS, PREDATOR

Cinema 2000 Metrotown
(Tarlac) tel (045) 982.1729

1 EVE
2 ETERNAL SUNSHINE
3 (DOLBY) PRINCESS DIARIES-2
4 (DTS) ALIEN VS, PREDATOR

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Plaridel) tel (044) 7953320

1 ANACONDAS
2 PRINCESS DIARIES-2
3 (DOLBY) ALIEN VS. PREDATOR

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276

1 (SDDS) WILD BUTTERFLY
2 SUGAT
3 TAG-INIT
4 (DTS) ETERNAL SUNSHINE

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202

1 (DOLBY) ANACONDAS
2 HAMOG
3 (DTS) THE TERMINAL
4 STEPFORD WIVES
5 DARK DANCER

Mega Center Mall
(Cabanatuan City) tel (044) 463.3283

1 SPIRAL
2 THE CINDERELLA STORY
3 (DTS) ALIEN VS, PREDATOR
4 (DOLBY) HOUSE OF THE DEAD

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790

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2 DODGEBALL
3 HAMOG
4 PRINCESS DIARIES-2

Berma Cinema
(Baclaran) tel 879.2030 / 879.2029

1 TAG-INIT
2 ANACONDAS

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30 Cinemalaya semi-finalists chosen

By Nestor U. Torre

(Conclusion)

THE next step is for the 30 Cinemalaya semi-finalist synopses to be expanded to full-length screenplays, which will again be read by the selection committee.

Members of the committee will deliberate once more, and select the 10 best screenplays, which will then be filmed with the help of seed money of P500,000 each.

The 10 films will be screened next February at the first Cinemalaya Film Festival at the CCP, and the top winner will be chosen.

In an important sense, however, all 10 finalist films are winners, because the festival will make it possible for their first-time full-length filmmakers to show what they can do. It is hoped that mainstream producers will become interested in them and offer them more projects to do, thus boosting the prospects and talent pool of the local filmmaking industry.

Digital films

We trust, too, that the 10 digital films by new directors will offer local moviegoers fresh, innovative, exciting and alternative viewing options that they would not otherwise get from established movie producers. So, in another key sense, *everybody*—the audience included—wins.

The next deliberation coming up is on the finalists for the "short story" film competition. Again, 10 finalists will be selected and screened, to introduce even more new filmmaking talents to producers and moviegoers.

Since the short story movies will run for only 20 minutes, they will be relatively inexpensive to produce, which would make it easier for their young writer-directors to get the showcase they deserve.

The members of the selection committee of Cinemalaya's full-length film competition are Bien Lumbera (chairman), Carlos de Leon, Tony Gloria, Peque Gallaga and this writer.

Cruise...

From page A27

vastly outnumbering those who applauded.

"When I set out to make a film, I don't think about the audience. I never ask myself who will see it," said Proskurina, whose second feature, "Sluchajnyj," won the Golden Leopard award at the Locarno festival in 1990.

"What I wanted to examine is the feeling that life is incomplete. Everything is unfinished in this film. That is the basic element in the film," the 56-year-old director said. *AFP*

CRUISE. High-powered star.

Cruise at Venice filmfest

VENICE, Italy—Tom Cruise set pulses racing along the Venice Lido as he arrived for the European premiere of Michael Mann's "Collateral," while the city prepared for a weekend of elite parties during the 61st Venice Film Festival.

Cruise is the latest high-powered star to descend on Venice for a festival which favors Hollywood glitz and celebrity over independent productions, even if films like "Collateral" have already opened in the United States.

Premiere

The actor's ex-wife, Nicole Kidman, arrives early next week for the premiere of her film, "Birth," by British director Johathan Glaser, one of the films tipped to win the prestigious Golden Lion award.

Curiously, the Hollywood icons end up being the butt of a joke in the art-house Russian entry, "Udalionnyj Dostup" (Remote Access).

A fragmented film about waiting for love, it features strong performances from first-time actors Dana Agisheva and Alexander Plaksin, who play bored youths who connect over an erotic telephone chat-line but never get to meet.

Svetlana Proskurina's quiet, slow film is full of angst and pain, concealed feelings and truncated conversations.

Dialogue

One such dialogue, between Agisheva's character and her father, played by veteran Vladimir Ilyin, contains the gossipy Cruise reference.

"You'll never marry Tom Cruise," he says.

"I don't like him. Anyway, he doesn't like girls."

"He was married to Nicole Kidman," he says.

"That was only to help each other for work, I think," she replies.

Proskurina says her work is based on Russian writer Ivan Bunin's rather pessimistic assessment of love: "Year after year, day after day, there is but one great event that we secretly await—a joyful love affair. In the end, we live only for the hope of such an encounter, however, it is in vain. . ."

The audience at a press preview were unconvinced. Those who reacted as the titles rolled mostly booed or jeered,

CRUISE A26

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Cinema	Movie	Times
1 THX	THE TERMINAL	11:00, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00
2	THE TERMINAL	10:30, 1:15, 4:00, 6:45, 9:30
3	DODGEBALL	11:10, 1:20, 3:30, 5:40, 7:50, 10:00
4	GODSEND	10:45, 1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00
5	ANACONDAS	10:20, 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00
6	THE NOTEBOOK	11:00, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00
7	JANDARA	12:40, 3 00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00
8	THE TOOL BOX MURDERS	10 45, 1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00
9	HAUNTED SPIRITS 2	12:20, 2:40, 5 00, 7:20, 9 40
10	THE PRINCESS DIARIES 2	11:20, 2 00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00

MATINEE: Monday to Friday/ 10 am-4pm except holidays
Matinee Price: P80 for one level cinemas
Regular Price: P150 THX / P95/65 for two levels cinemas / P95 for one level cinemas

ERMITA 536-7809 to 12

Cinema	Movie	Times
1	ANACONDAS	10:20, 12:40, 3:00, 5:10, 7:20, 9:40
2	GODSEND	10:40, 12:50, 3 00, 5:10, 7:20, 9:40
3	THE TERMINAL	11:00, 1:40, 4 20, 7:00, 9:50
4	THE TOOL BOX MURDERS	10 40, 12 40, 2:40, 4 40, 6:40, 8:30, 10 00
5	HAUNTED SPIRITS 2	11:00, 1:05, 3:10, 5 15, 7:20, 9 30
6	DODGEBALL	10:30, 12:25, 2:20, 4:15, 6:10, 8 05, 10 00
7	THE NOTEBOOK	10:20, 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50

METRO EAST 682-8193/99 / 682-8280

Cinema	Movie	Times
1	THE PRINCESS DIARIES 2	11:20, 1:40, 4:00, 6:20, 9:00
2	DODGEBALL	10:50, 12:50, 2:50, 4:50, 6:50, 8:50, 10:30
3	THE TERMINAL	12:30, 3:10, 5.50, 8.25, 10.30
4	GODSEND	10.50, 12 50, 2 50, 4.50, 6.50, 9:00
5	ANACONDAS	10 20, 12 40, 3 00, 5 20, 7 40, 10:00
6	THE TOOL BOX MURDERS	10:50, 12:50, 2:50, 4.50, 6:50, 9:00
7	THE NOTEBOOK	10:05, 12:50, 3 35, 6.20, 9.05
8	TAG-INIT	10:30, 12:30, 2:30, 4 30, 6:30, 8:30

NOVALICHES / FAIRVIEW 935-3229 / 31

Cinema	Movie	Times
1	ANACONDAS	10:30, 12:35, 2:40, 4:45, 6:50, 8:55
2	THE PRINCESS DIARIES 2	11:00, 1:25, 3:50, 6:15, 8:40
3	DODGEBALL	11:45, 1.55, 4.05, 6:15, 8:30
4	JANDARA	10:30, 12 30, 2 30, 4 30, 6:30, 8:30
5	THE TERMINAL	12:10, 2 50, 5.30, 8 20
6	THE TOOL BOX MURDERS	11 45, 1.55, 4.05, 6 15, 8:30
7	TAG-INIT	11.00, 1.00, 3 00, 5 00, 7.00, 9.00
8	ALIEN VS. PREDATOR	11.00, 2 00, 3 00, 5:00, 7 00, 8 55

Citisquare MALABON 288-0985/2575

1 DODGEBALL
2 THE TERMINAL
3 ANACONDAS
4 TAG-INIT

CAINTA 240-4661

1 TAG-INIT
2 DODGEBALL
3 THE TERMINAL
4 ANACONDAS

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1 ANACONDAS
2 THE TERMINAL
3 HOUSE OF THE DEAD
4 SUPERSIZE ME
5 THE STEPFORD WIVES

LIPA 757-3664 / 312-5870

1 THE PRINCESS DIARIES 2
2 DODGEBALL
3 LAWS OF ATTRACTION
4 HAMOG
5 CONNIE AND CARLA

DASMARIÑAS 852-2125 / 416-4332

1 THE TERMINAL
2 THUNDERBIRDS
3 ANACONDAS
4 HOUSE OF THE DEAD
5 THE TOOL BOX MURDERS

STARMILLS 875-1927 / 961-5270

1 BANGKOK HAUNTED 2
2 DEATH CURSE
3 THUNDERBIRDS
4 LAWS OF ATTRACTION
5 ANACONDAS
6 CONNIE AND CARLA

IMUS 471-8188 / 875-5858

1 ANACONDAS
2 THE TOOL BOX MURDERS
3 THE NOTEBOOK
4 DODGEBALL
5 TAG-INIT
6 THE TERMINAL

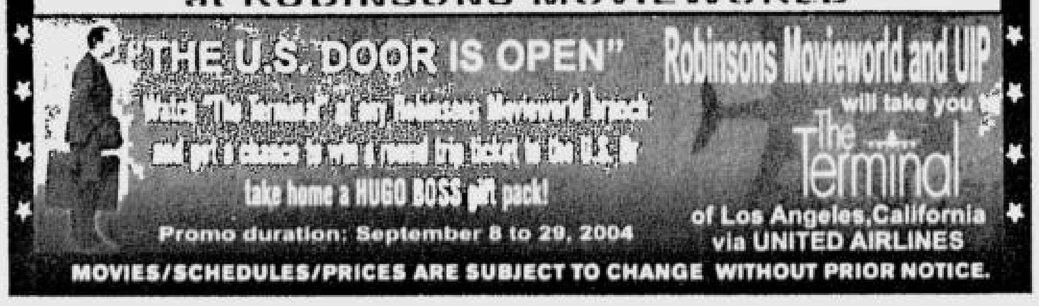
BACOLOD 441-0458/59

1 THE PRINCESS DIARIES 2
2 A CINDERELLA STORY
3 THE PRINCE AND ME
4 THUNDERBIRDS
5 LAWS OF ATTRACTION
6 KARELASYON

ILOILO 336-8070/78

1 THE PRINCESS DIARIES 2
2 THE STEPFORD WIVES
3 A CINDERELLA STORY
4 SUPERSIZE ME
5 THE VILLAGE
6 KARELASYON

at ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD



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Cinema	ATC ALABANG TOWN CENTER	G1 GLORIETTA 1	GB3 GREENBELT 3	ACC AYALA CENTER CEBU
1	THX DODGEBALL	ANACONDAS	GUARANTEED SEATS THX THE NOTEBOOK 1 30, 4 00, 6 30, 9 00, 11 30	PRINCESS DIARIES 2
2	THE TERMINAL	DODGEBALL	GUARANTEED SEATS THX THE TERMINAL 1 05, 3 35, 6 05, 8 35, 11 05	CONNIE & CARLA
3	ANACONDAS	THE TERMINAL	GUARANTEED SEATS ANACONDAS 1 15, 3 10, 5 05, 7 00 THE TERMINAL 9 30, 12 00	BANGKOK HAUNTED 2: THE UNBORN
4	GODSEND	GODSEND	GUARANTEED SEATS GODSEND 2 35, 4 45, 6 55, 9 05, 11 15	ANACONDAS
5	THE NOTEBOOK		GUARANTEED SEATS DODGEBALL 1 10, 3 10, 5 10, 7 10, 9 10, 11 10	A CINDERELLA STORY

G4 GLORIETTA 4	
1	DODGEBALL
2	ANACONDAS
3	GUARANTEED SEATS THX THE NOTEBOOK 12 35, 3 00, 5 30, 8 00, 10 30
4	CONNIE & CARLA
5	PRINCESS DIARIES 2
6	THE TERMINAL
7	GODSEND

GB1 GREENBELT 1		
1	DODGEBALL	11:50, 1 50, 3 50, 5 50, 7 50, 9:50
2	THE TERMINAL	12 15, 2 45, 5 15, 7 45, 10 15

At the Activity Center

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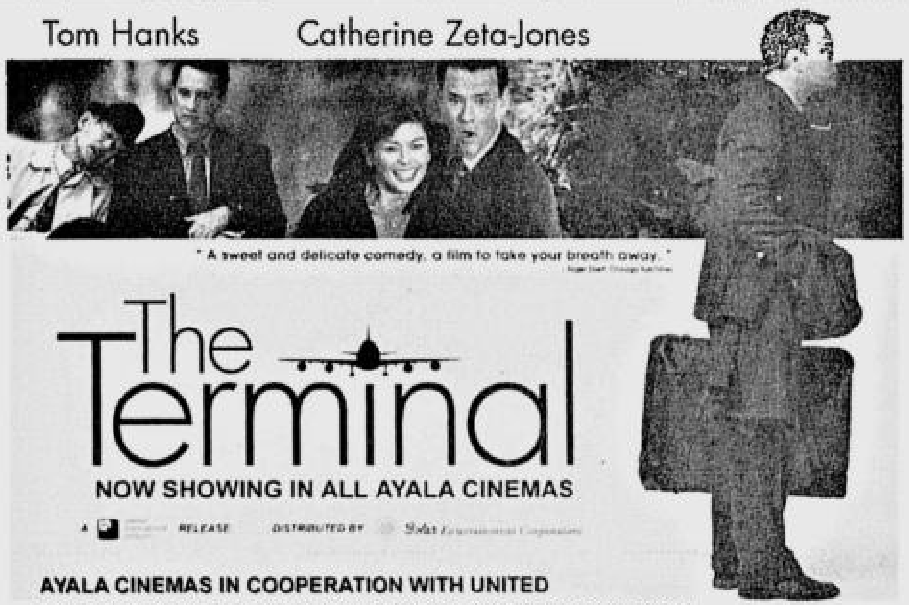

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Every ticket of THE TERMINAL purchased in Ayala Cinemas (Glorietta 1 & 4, Greenbelt 1 & 3 and Alabang Town Center) entitles the moviegoer to one (1) raffle entry

The ticket booth personnel will ask the customer to fill up the raffle coupon for every purchase of The Terminal movie ticket. Drop boxes will be placed at the cinema lobbies where moviegoers can drop the attached coupon.

Prizes include 1 round trip ticket from Manila to the U.S. valid until March 2005, 5 Hugo Boss gift packs and 10 Ayala Cinemas movie passes.

Promo is valid from September 8 - 25, 2004 (from Mon - Sun) all screenings of The Terminal. Deadline for dropping of entries is on September 25.

Raffle Draw will be on September 30, 5 00pm at the Glorietta 4 cinema lobby.

Moviegoer may only win once. In case a moviegoer is drawn more than once, the higher prize will be given.

Winners will be notified through registered mail, newspaper ads and phone call.

Prizes can be claimed at the Ayala Cinemas office, 5th flr. Glorietta 4, Ayala Center, Makati. Winner must present a valid ID, notice received thru registered mail and raffle coupon.

Prizes not claimed within 60 days from the receipt of the notification shall be forfeited with prior approval of DTI.

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Prize Tax, travel documents and other related expenses will be shouldered by the winner.

All prizes are not convertible to cash but are transferable.

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HOME SWEET HOME

My life has always been that of a traveler but I do enjoy the few times I get to hang around my living room. Home for me is a two storey house in Holland Village in Singapore. I'm surrounded by trees and wildlife, a welcome peace and quiet. By tomorrow, I'll be packing my bags again and headin' off some place exciting.

mmersing
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lad to be back in
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Editor Nestor U. Torre
Assistant Editor Rito P. Asilo

Mr. C is Gawad CCP's awardee for music

By Andy Bais

WINNING awards has become a habit for the country's ace musician, Ryan Cayabyab—Mr. C to his friends in the music industry. His latest triumph is this year's prestigious Gawad CCP Para sa Sining award for music, a prelude to a much bigger award that, we hope, will be given to him in the future.

CAYABYAB. Has proven that an album of quality music can be a bestseller.

Ryan has lost count of his numerous awards and citations, but some of them are special to him: "The Alexander Onassis Cultural Prize for original composition for dance, where I won second prize in 2001 (there was no first prize), was significant because I was the only Asian who qualified. Also, my TOYM award for contemporary music in 1978, and the Grand Prize that I got in the Seoul Song Festival for 'Kay Ganda ng Ating Musika.'

Tokyo Music Festival

"*Nagtatalon din ako* when the Smokey Mountain won the Grand Prize in the Tokyo Music Festival in 1993 for my song, 'Paraiso.'

"When you win in an international competition, it's very significant. But if it's your own country that's honoring you, and it's through an institution like CCP, you really feel special. Maybe, I've done something notable and significant in Philippine music," he beams.

Ryan, whose original compositions bloomed in the '70s, considers those years as exciting times because that was when OPM or Original Pilipino Music started.

"It was specially significant because the government was helping the music industry. Radio stations were mandated to play four OPMs every hour. And it proved to be effective. To this day, we can still hear the '70s songs.

Ironic

"But, looking back, wasn't it ironic that, in our own country, the government had to order radio stations to play OPM? It just goes to show how strong our colonial mentality is up to this day," he sighs.

The increasing popularity of "naughty" songs due to their sexy connotations is the result of the pressure of the buying public, says Ryan. "They became popular *kasi yun ang palaging nadidinig sa radyo at nakikita na sinasayaw sa TV.*"

Fortunately, however, some people are looking for quality music. The second album Ryan produced for the San Miguel Foundation for the Performing Arts, of which he is the executive and artistic director, has been topping Tower Records' list of best selling albums for 20 weeks, without much advertising and promotion on radio and TV.

Symphonic arrangements

The album, 'Great Filipino Love Songs,' features symphonic arrangements of classics like "Dahil sa Iyo," "Bato sa Buhangin," "Buhat," "Ang Tangi Kong Pag-ibig" and "Saan Ka Man Naroroon," as performed by the San Miguel Philharmonic Orchestra and distributed by BMG Records.

Soon to be released is a symphonic and choral album of "Great OPMs by Ryan Cayabyab." This will feature the 40-member San Miguel Master Chorale, aside from the orchestra. In the works is an *a capella* album of the chorale singing great Filipino songs from the movies, to be released next year.

Ryan considers his post at San Miguel as a full-time job. *"Ang dami kong nasusulat, mga* arrangements and original works. And, I'm proud to say that our product is for the Filipino people. The foundation is for the preservation and promotion of Filipino music," he stresses.

Ryan is looking forward to the foundation's other project—a competition for orchestral and choral writing next year.

Original works

"We're undertaking this project *para dumami pa ang* original works. This is all about promoting, preserving and performing Filipino music."

Filipinos are dubbed the best musicians in Asia. And this is a fact, according to Ryan: *"Kahit saan ka man pumunta, may* Pinoy musicians. But what are they playing? Western music, because the clientele is international. So, *sayang, wala tayong* contribution *sa* world literature in music, or *maliit lang.* With what I'm doing with San Miguel, *sana*, eventually, *maririnig ang 'ingay' natin, kahit paunti-unti!*

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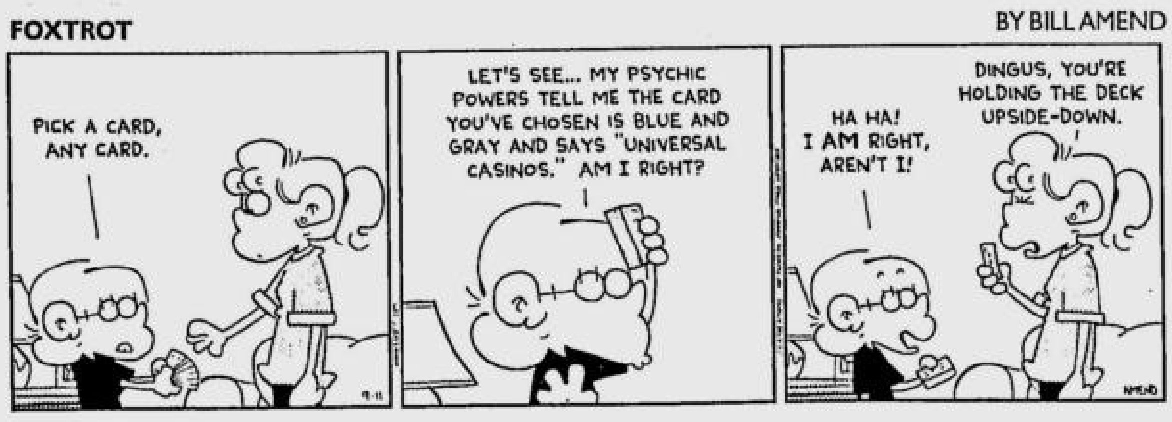
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2004

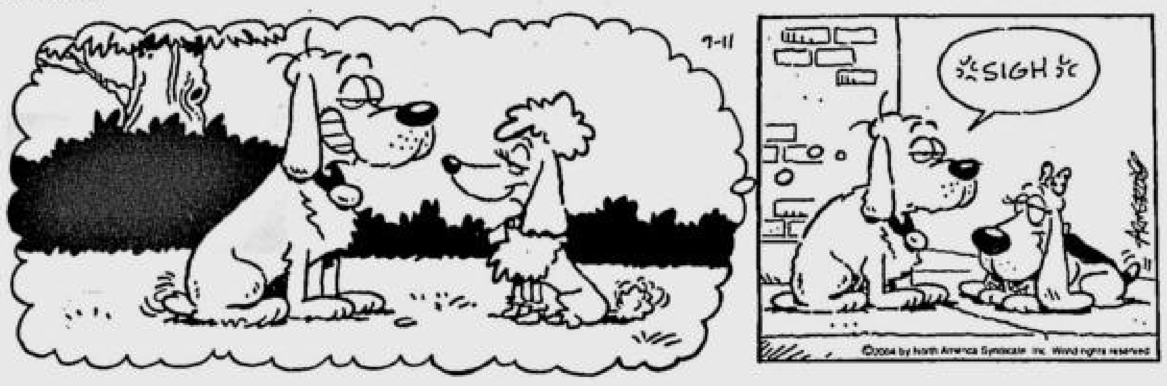
FOXTROT

BY BILL AMEND


PICK A CARD, ANY CARD.
LET'S SEE... MY PSYCHIC POWERS TELL ME THE CARD YOU'VE CHOSEN IS BLUE AND GRAY AND SAYS "UNIVERSAL CASINOS." AM I RIGHT?
HA HA! I AM RIGHT, AREN'T I!
DINGUS, YOU'RE HOLDING THE DECK UPSIDE-DOWN.
9-11
AMEND

MARVIN

BY TOM ARMSTRONG


9-11
SIGH
ARMSTRONG
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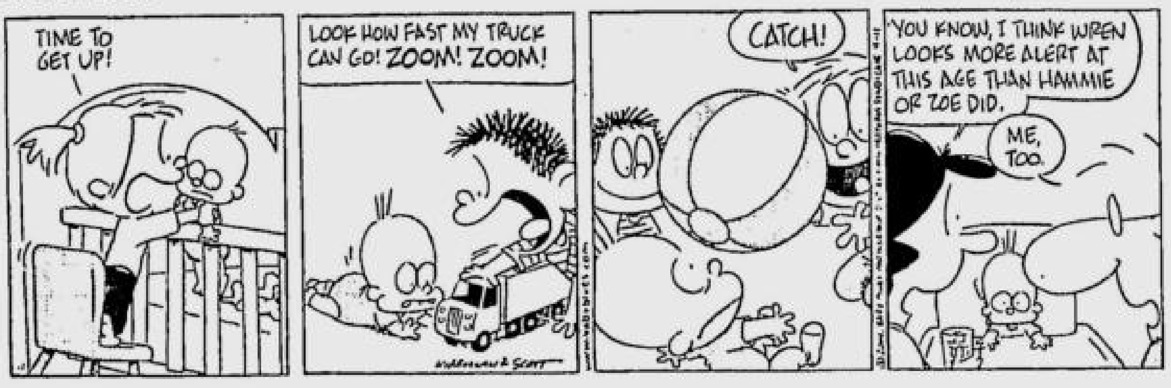
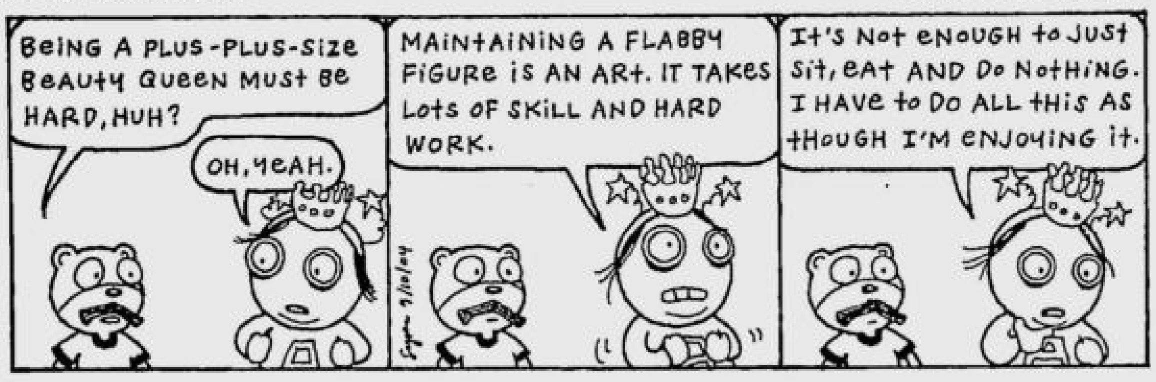
BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT


TIME TO GET UP!
LOOK HOW FAST MY TRUCK CAN GO! ZOOM! ZOOM!
CATCH!
YOU KNOW, I THINK WREN LOOKS MORE ALERT AT THIS AGE THAN HAMMIE OR ZOE DID.
ME, TOO.
KIRKMAN & SCOTT

ATOMO AND WEBOY

BY LYRA GARCELLANO


BEING A PLUS-PLUS-SIZE BEAUTY QUEEN MUST BE HARD, HUH?
OH, YEAH.
MAINTAINING A FLABBY FIGURE IS AN ART. IT TAKES LOTS OF SKILL AND HARD WORK.
IT'S NOT ENOUGH TO JUST SIT, EAT AND DO NOTHING. I HAVE TO DO ALL THIS AS THOUGH I'M ENJOYING IT.
9/10/04

HOROSCOPE

BY FRANCIS DRAKE

YOU BORN TODAY: You're dramatic, flamboyant and free-spirited. You often have to make important choices in your life. You're liberal-thinking and tolerant. You're also very nurturing to loved ones. You have much to look forward to this year: It might be one of the best years of your life! Go after whatever you want.
Birthdate of: Harry Connick Jr., singer; Brian de Palma, director; D.H. Lawrence, writer.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19): Serious power struggles with somebody you work with are likely today. Each party wants his or her own way. (People tend to think they know it all today.)

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20): Conflict related to entertainment, show business and the hospitality industry is likely today. People just can't seem to agree. A dispute about who owns what could be the issue.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20): This is a very poor day for serious discussions with partners or close friends. You might feel attacked. Or you might try to coerce others to make changes for "their own good."

CANCER (June 21 to July 22): You're determined to win an argument today. Possibly, you're attracting somebody who is trying to do this also. This is a futile attempt! Let it go. It's really just a battle of egos.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22): You want to spend your money today so that it makes an improvement in some area that you care about. You want to get more bang for your buck. And you don't want others telling you how to do it.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22): You might face the breakdown of machines or certain situations today. Things don't function as they should! (It's time to straighten out the situation.)

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): This is a difficult day. Subconscious feelings make you defensive. Without knowing why, you might attack others. Try to calm your feelings.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): You feel that you're being tested today. A friend (or a group) seems to be challenging you. You don't have to prove yourself. Don't get suckered into this situation.

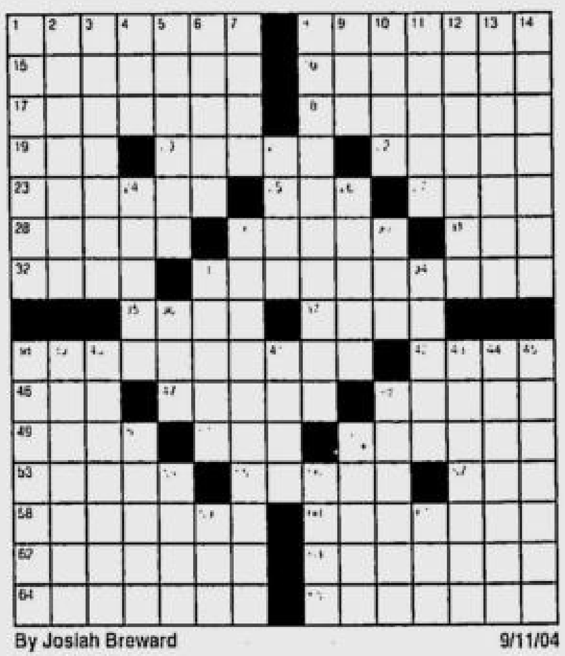
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): This is poor day to deal with authority figures. They might demand that you explain yourself or account for your actions. Someone could be abusing his or her power.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19): Arguments about religion, politics and philosophical concepts are likely today. People seem to be fanatical about making their point. Oy vay.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18): This is not a good day to divide shared possessions or decide who gets what. Arguments could arise. This intense quality passes in a few days—just wait.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20): This is a terrible day for serious discussions with partners or bosses. Everyone has his or her claws out. Just lie low.

DAILY CROSSWORD



By Josiah Breward
Scranton, PA

9/11/04

ACROSS
1 Stock of weapons
8 Gets by with less
15 Rope rung
16 Strict authoritarian
17 Inflexible
18 Penthouse porch
19 Set afire
20 Poetic rhythm
22 Entices
23 Tasty toppings
25 Misfortune
27 Skirt cut
28 Portal
29 Fender flaws
31 Brink of Christmas
32 Toward open waters
33 Ballet turns
35 Gershwin and Levin
37 Parasitic arachnid
38 Thespians' pseudonyms
42 Diamond coverage
46 Decade count
47 Prima donnas
48 Skin cream
49 Meal scraps
51 Demure
52 Like a little lamb?
53 D-Day beach
55 Females
57 Lummox
58 Carnivorous fish
60 Moderate in tempo
62 Everlasting
63 Bishop's crook
64 Tapes shut again
65 Detectors

DOWN
1 Caspian's neighbor
2 Units of angular measure
3 Regulation
4 "A Nightmare on _ Street"
5 Capital on the Niger River
6 Francis and Frank
7 Latvian
8 Devices used to mark time
9 Tree-felling tool
10 Malden or Malone
11 Beige shades
12 Up-and-coming actress
13 Mislead
14 Electra's brother
21 Wide-mouth pitcher
24 Golfer Stadler
26 Needle boxes
29 Recantations
30 Prepared
33 Wild fear
34 Grand _ National Park
36 Garnet's color
38 One who bends downward
39 Colonizing insect
40 Brightest star in Scorpio
41 BLT topper
43 Shylock's customer
44 Storyteller
45 Likes better
48 Hamstring, for example
50 Portion
52 Literary grouping
54 Paquin or Pavlova
56 Brits' raincoats
59 Linden or Roach
61 Nincompoop

Friday's Puzzle Solved

A	D	A	M	■	C	A	P	E	■	M	O	R	A	L
B	O	D	E	■	O	M	E	N	■	E	P	O	D	E
E	V	E	R	Y	N	O	W	A	N	D	T	H	E	N
D	E	N	I	E	D	■	S	T	O	A	■	E	S	T
■	■	■	T	W	O	S	■	T	E	L	S	■	■	■
A	B	U	■	S	N	I	F	■	L	I	T	T	E	R
M	O	N	K	■	E	L	I	E	■	S	E	I	N	E
B	Y	F	I	T	S	A	N	D	S	T	A	R	T	S
E	L	I	T	E	■	S	E	G	A	■	M	E	R	E
R	E	T	E	N	E	■	S	A	N	D	■	D	Y	E
■	■	■	S	T	A	N	■	R	C	A	S	■	■	■
O	A	R	■	A	C	E	S	■	T	R	U	D	G	E
S	W	I	T	C	H	P	O	S	I	T	I	O	N	S
L	E	G	A	L	■	A	L	T	O	■	T	E	A	M
O	S	A	G	E	■	L	O	A	N	■	E	S	T	E

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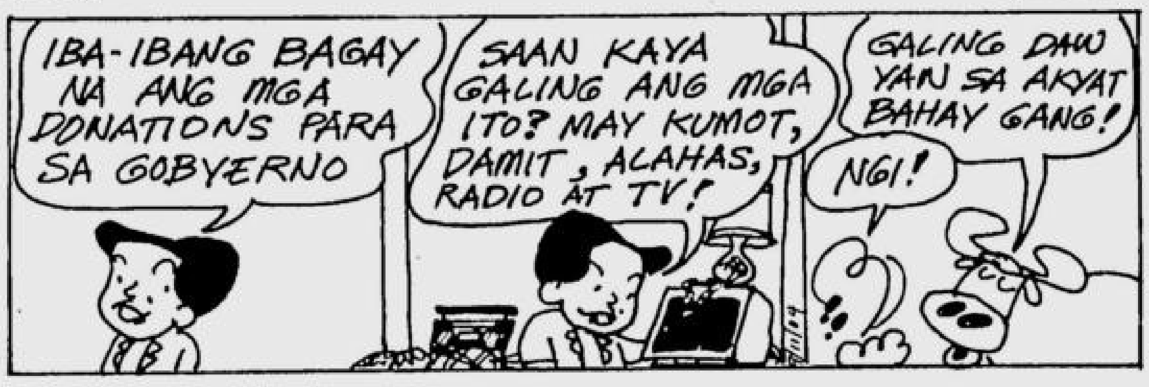
9/11/04

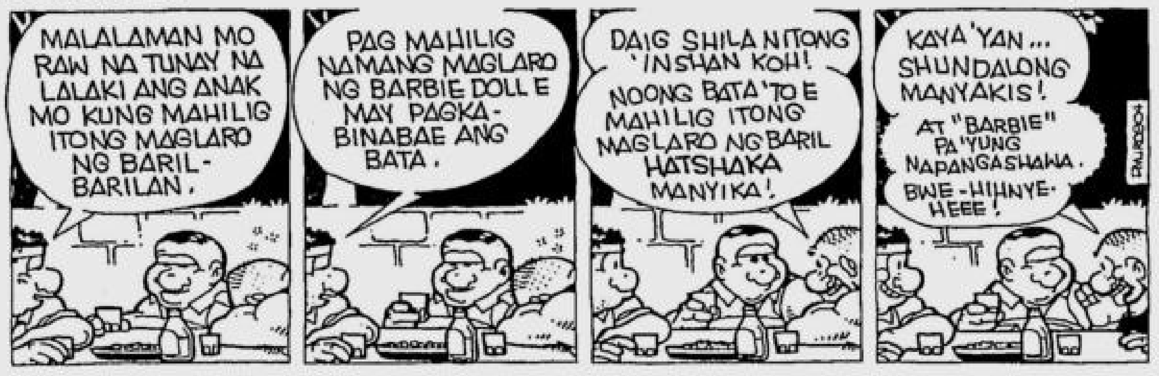
A. LIPIN

BY JESS ABRERA


IBA-IBANG BAGAY NA ANG MGA DONATIONS PARA SA GOBYERNO
SAAN KAYA GALING ANG MGA ITO? MAY KUMOT, DAMIT, ALAHAS, RADIO AT TV!
GALING DAW YAN SA AKYAT BAHAY GANG!
NGI!

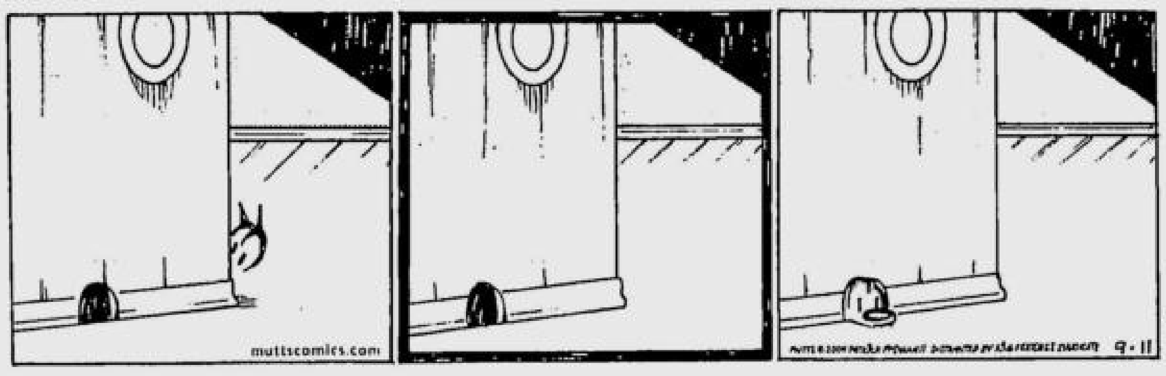
PUGAD BABOY

BY P.M. JUNIOR


MALALAMAN MO RAW NA TUNAY NA LALAKI ANG ANAK MO KUNG MAHILIG ITONG MAGLARO NG BARIL-BARILAN.
PAG MAHILIG NAMANG MAGLARO NG BARBIE DOLL E MAY PAGKA-BINABAE ANG BATA.
DAIG SHILA NITONG 'INSHAN KOH! NOONG BATA 'TO E MAHILIG ITONG MAGLARO NG BARIL HATSHAKA MANYIKA!
KAYA 'YAN... SHUNDALONG MANYAKIS!
AT "BARBIE" PA 'YUNG NAPANGASHAWA.
BWE-HIHNYE-HEEE!
PMJR2004

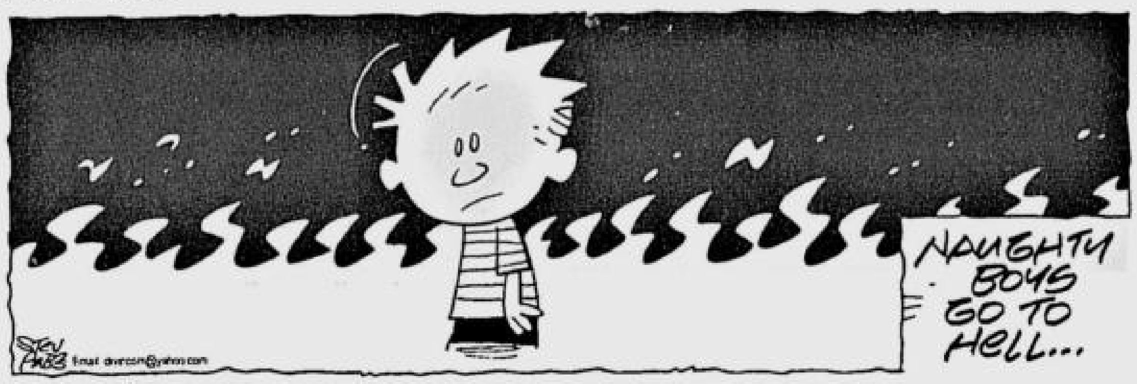
MUTTS

BY PATRICK McDONNELL


muttscomics.com
9-11

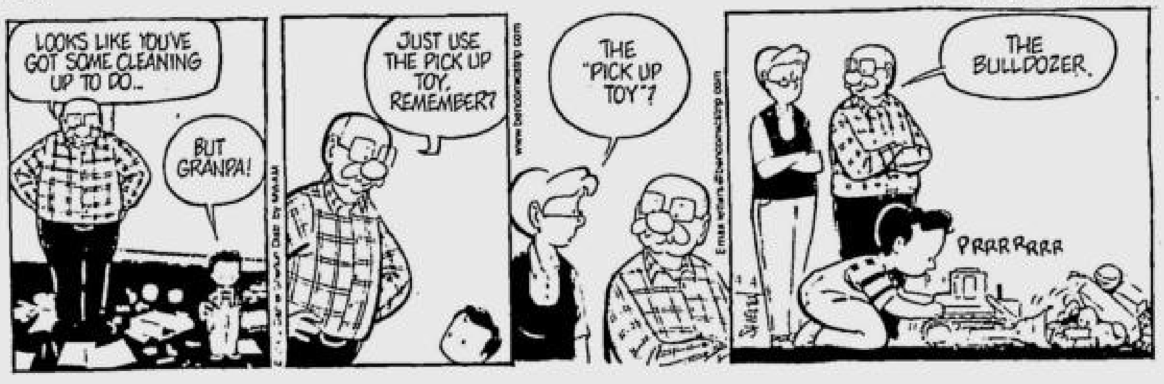
DIVINE COMEDY

BY STEVEN PABALINAS


NAUGHTY BOYS GO TO HELL...
Email: divcom@yahoo.com

BEN

BY DANIEL SHELTON


LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE GOT SOME CLEANING UP TO DO...
BUT GRANPA!
JUST USE THE PICK UP TOY, REMEMBER?
THE "PICK UP TOY"?
THE BULLDOZER.
PRRRRRRR
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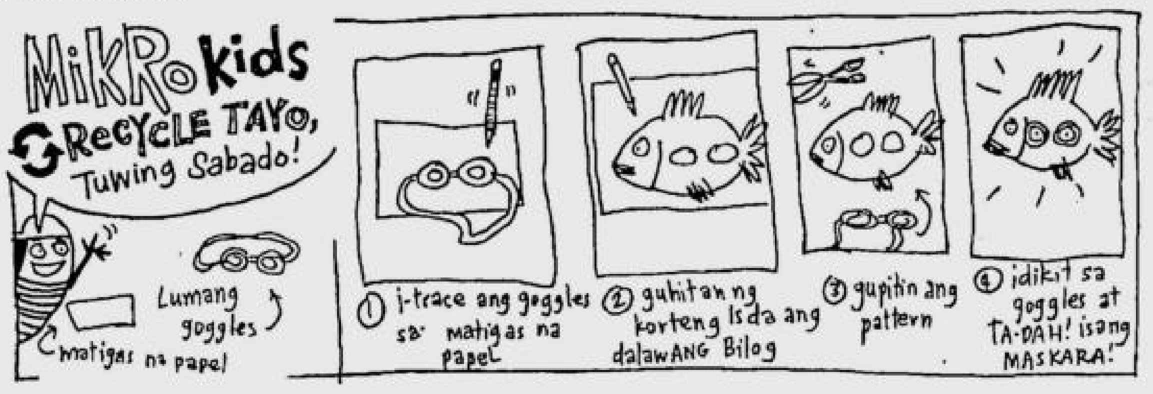
SHELTON

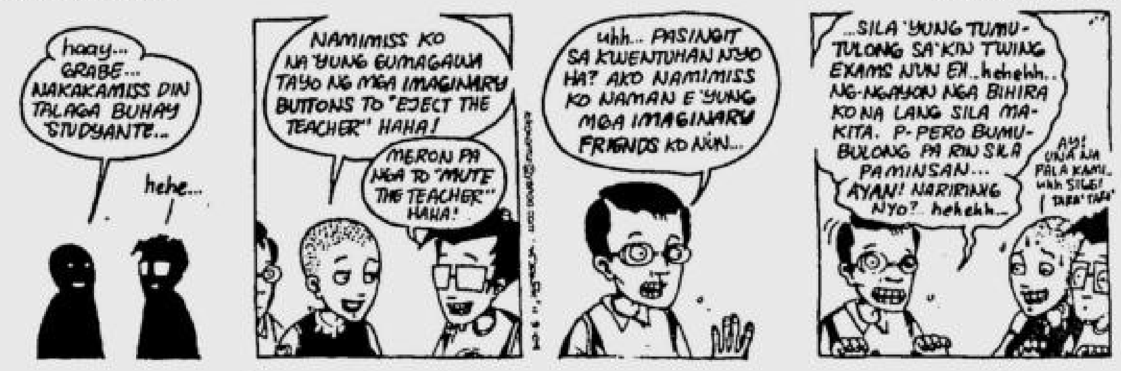
MIKROKOSMOS

BY JOMIKE TEJIDO


MiKRo kids
RECYCLE TAYO, Tuwing Sabado!
matigas na papel
Lumang goggles
① i-trace ang goggles sa matigas na papel
② guhitan ng korteng isda ang dalawang Bilog
③ gupitin ang pattern
④ idikit sa goggles at TA-DAH! isang MASKARA!

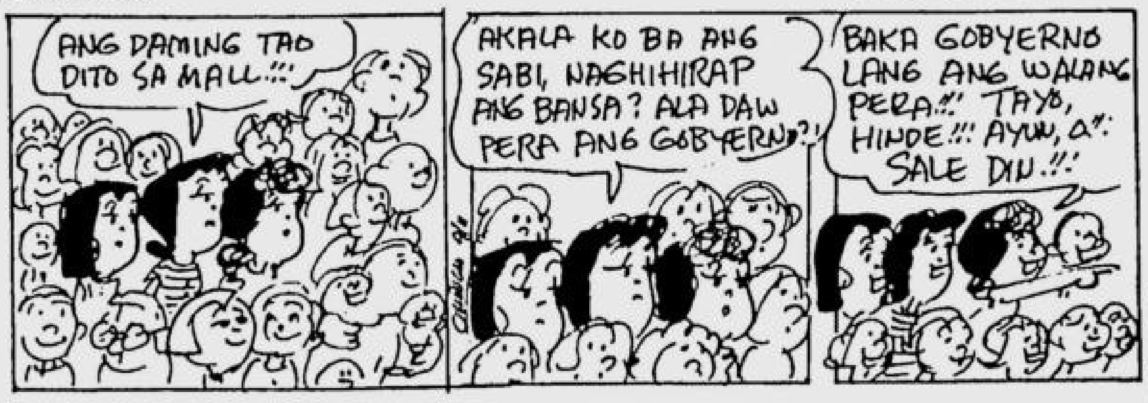
KIKO MACHINE

BY MANIX ABRERA


haay... GRABE... NAKAKAMISS DIN TALAGA BUHAY STUDYANTE...
hehe...
NAMIMISS KO NA 'YUNG GUMAGAWA TAYO NG MGA IMAGINARY BUTTONS TO "EJECT THE TEACHER" HAHA!
MERON PA NGA TO "MUTE THE TEACHER" HAHA!
uhh... PASINGIT SA KWENTUHAN NYO HA? AKO NAMIMISS KO NAMAN E 'YUNG MGA IMAGINARY FRIENDS KO NUN...
...SILA 'YUNG TUMUTULONG SA'KIN TWING EXAMS NUN EH... hehehh... NG-NGAYON NGA BIHIRA KO NA LANG SILA MAKITA. P-PERO BUMUBULONG PA RIN SILA PAMINSAN... AYAN! NARIRINIG NYO?.. hehehh...
AY! UNA NA PALA KAMI... uhh SIGE! TARA TARA!

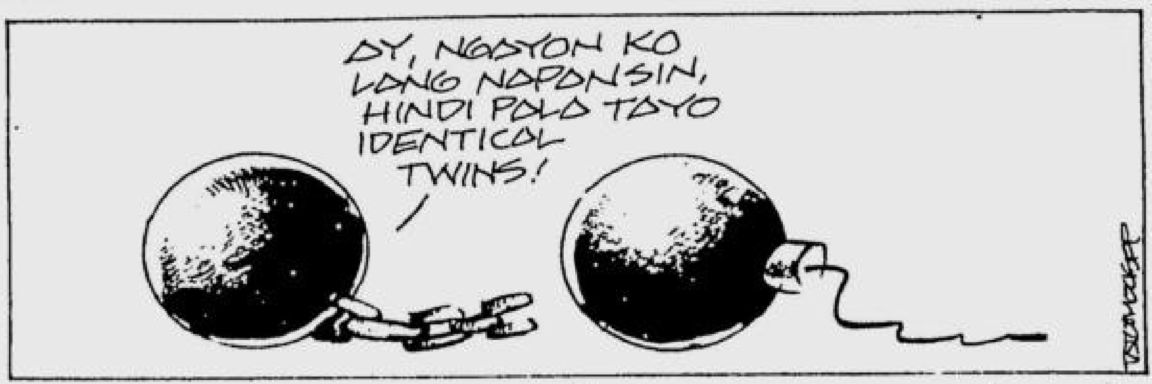
LOVEKNOTS

BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


ANG DAMING TAO DITO SA MALL!!!
AKALA KO BA ANG SABI, NAGHIHIRAP ANG BANSA? ALA DAW PERA ANG GOBYERNO?!
BAKA GOBYERNO LANG ANG WALANG PERA!!! TAYO, HINDE!!! AYUN, O!! SALE DIN!!!

TULDOK

BY PAPU AND TATUM MILAMBILING


OY, NGAYON KO LANG NAPANSIN, HINDI PALA TAYO IDENTICAL TWINS!

Bob Dylan to publish memoirs

DYLAN. Shifted to more introspective material.

NEW YORK—The famously private Bob Dylan, whose background and music are the stuff of legend, will shed light on his life and four-decade career as a singer-songwriter in a memoir to be published this autumn.

Dylan's "Chronicles: Volume One," the first of a planned three-book series, is a first-person narrative from the 63-year-old music icon, who rose to fame in the early 1960s and whose musical style ranged from folk and blues to rock, country and gospel.

Singular achievement

The first volume of his memoirs focuses on significant periods in Dylan's life and is described by publisher David Rosenthal as "extraordinary, revealing and surprising. It is a beautifully written, singular achievement." The 304-page book is due out on Oct. 12 and will be followed about a week later by an updated edition of "Lyrics: 1962-2001," a compendium of lyrics to nearly every Dylan song.

Born Robert Zimmerman in Duluth, Minnesota, Dylan left the University of Minnesota for New York's Greenwich Village folk-music scene at the start of the 1960s. He soon won fame for such protest anthems as "Blowin' in the Wind" and "The Times They are A-Changin'."

Poetry

The scrawny mid-Westerner who wrote lyrics like poetry and sang with a distinctive howl, shifted to more introspective material. He later added electric instrumentation as he helped create the folk-rock sound and scored a big hit with "Like a Rolling Stone."

He previously published "Tarantula," a 1971 volume of poems. *Reuters*

Anne . . .

From page A2-4

Dina, who's the mother of ex-boyfriend Oyo Boy Sotto, is someone she admires, says Anne. She's now romantically linked to Richard Gutierrez, although both young stars insist they're just friends. "What you see is what you get," she grins.

Anne is cautious because Richard is in a love team with his "Mulawin" co-star, Angel Locsin. She wants to focus on a solo career. She used to be paired up with fellow Viva talent, Chubi del Rosario. "It's better this way," she states. "What if *dumating ang* time *na hindi na kayo* 'in' as a love team? *Isa sa inyo ang babagsak.*" And she knows that it's usually the male who suffers the setback.

Variety

The 19-year-old Filipino-Australian actress was introduced in Peque Gallaga's "Magic Kingdom" seven years ago. Then, she became a regular in Viva-produced movies and TV shows like "Ober da Bakod" and "TGIS." Although she hardly spoke Filipino then, Anne was given a variety of roles, even poor-girl characters, so she was able to get rid of her *balikbayan* mold.

Anne shares that she has improved her proficiency in Filipino by taking formal lessons, and communicating in the vernacular with co-workers. She hasn't lost her Australian accent, though. It comes out when she talks to her father, she says.

Sitcom

Now that she's in a soap opera, Anne says she misses being in a sitcom. "I don't want to be typecast in drama. I want to do comedy, too."

But, in the future, Anne would like to pursue her dream of becoming a lawyer, just like her dad, who recently retired. She plans to study law in Australia, where she was born and raised. Meanwhile, she plans to finish high school next year.

Anne is also missing out on quality time with her family because of her hectic schedule.

For instance, she wasn't able to join her family on their last trip back to Australia.

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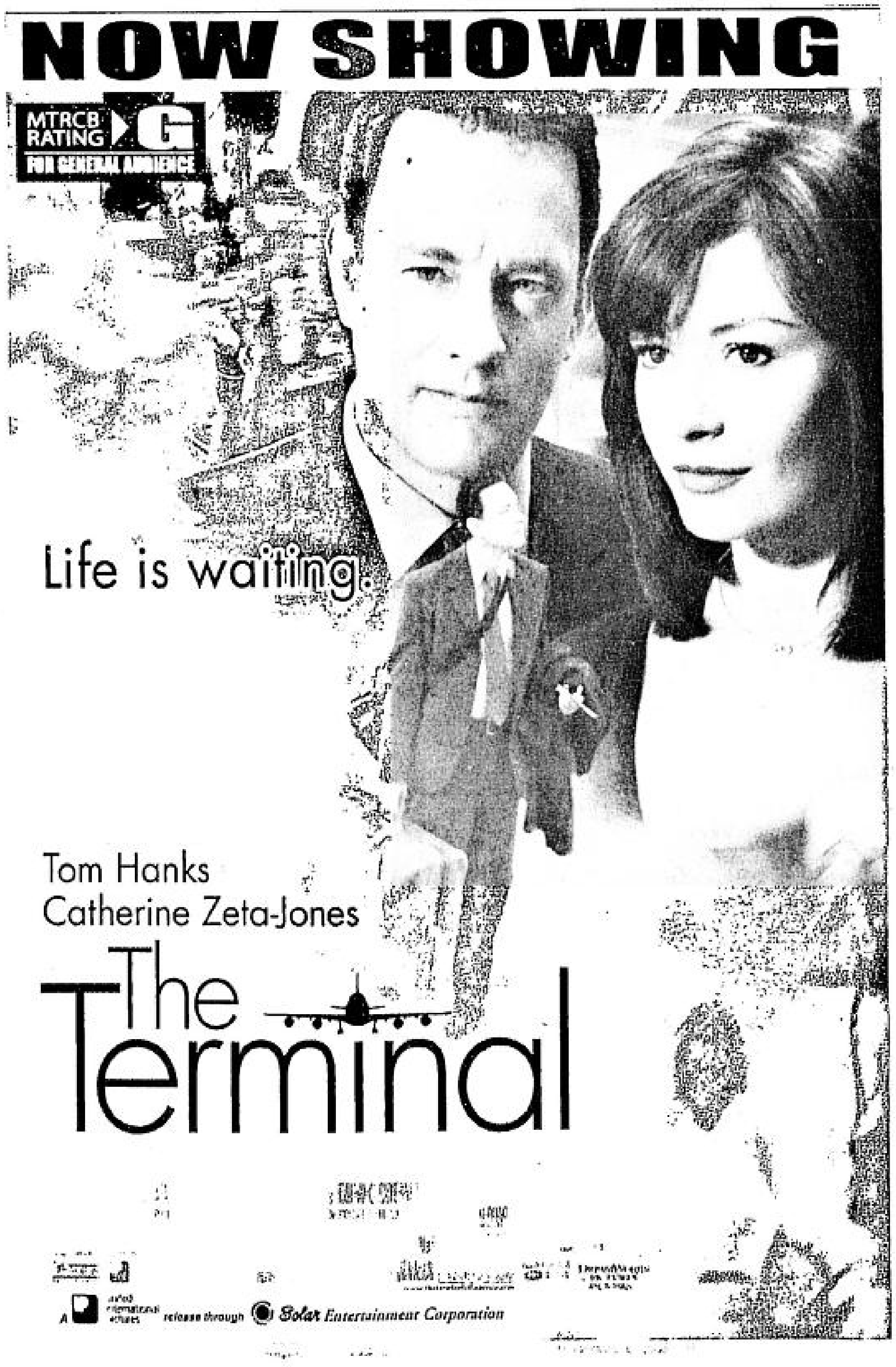
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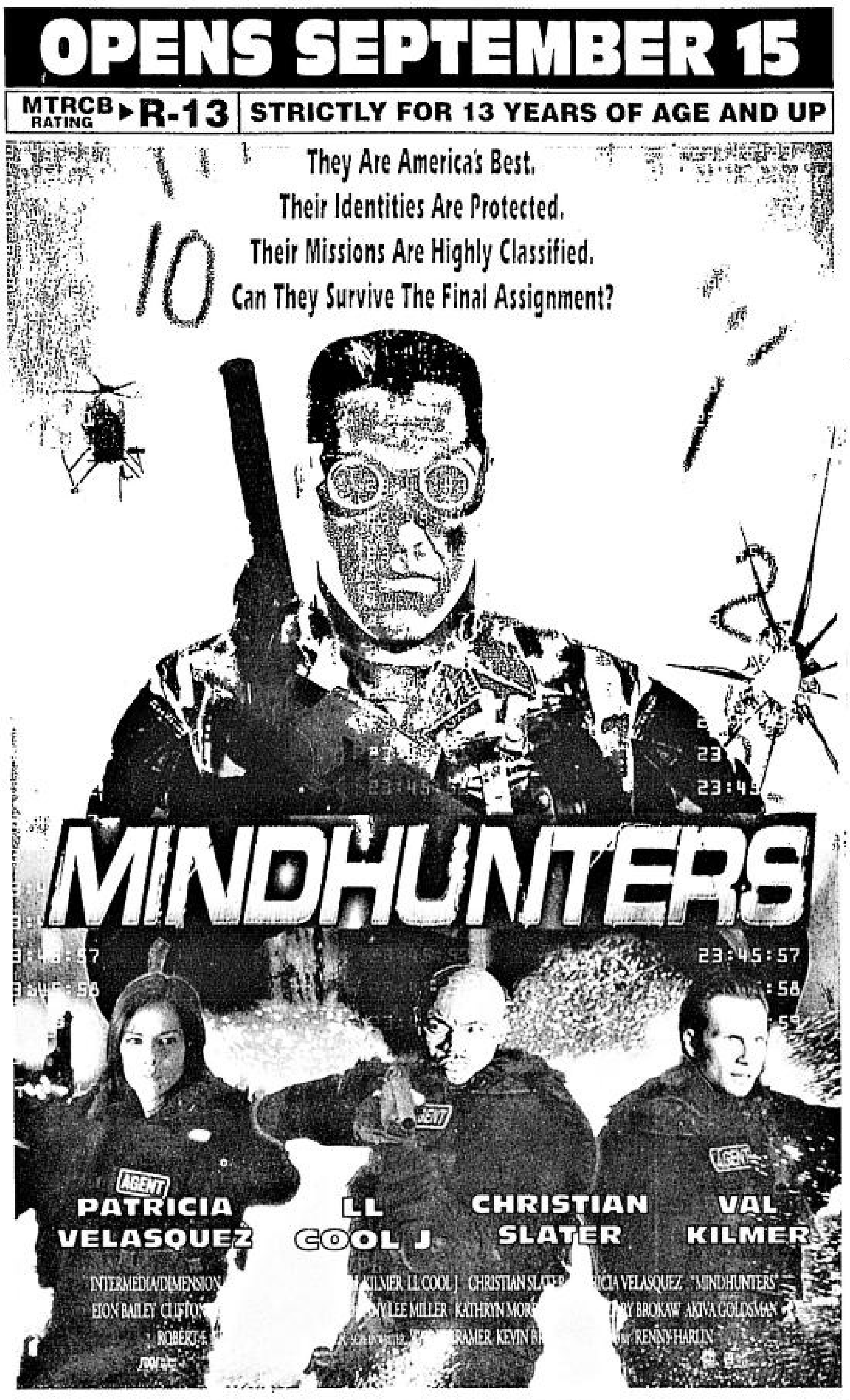
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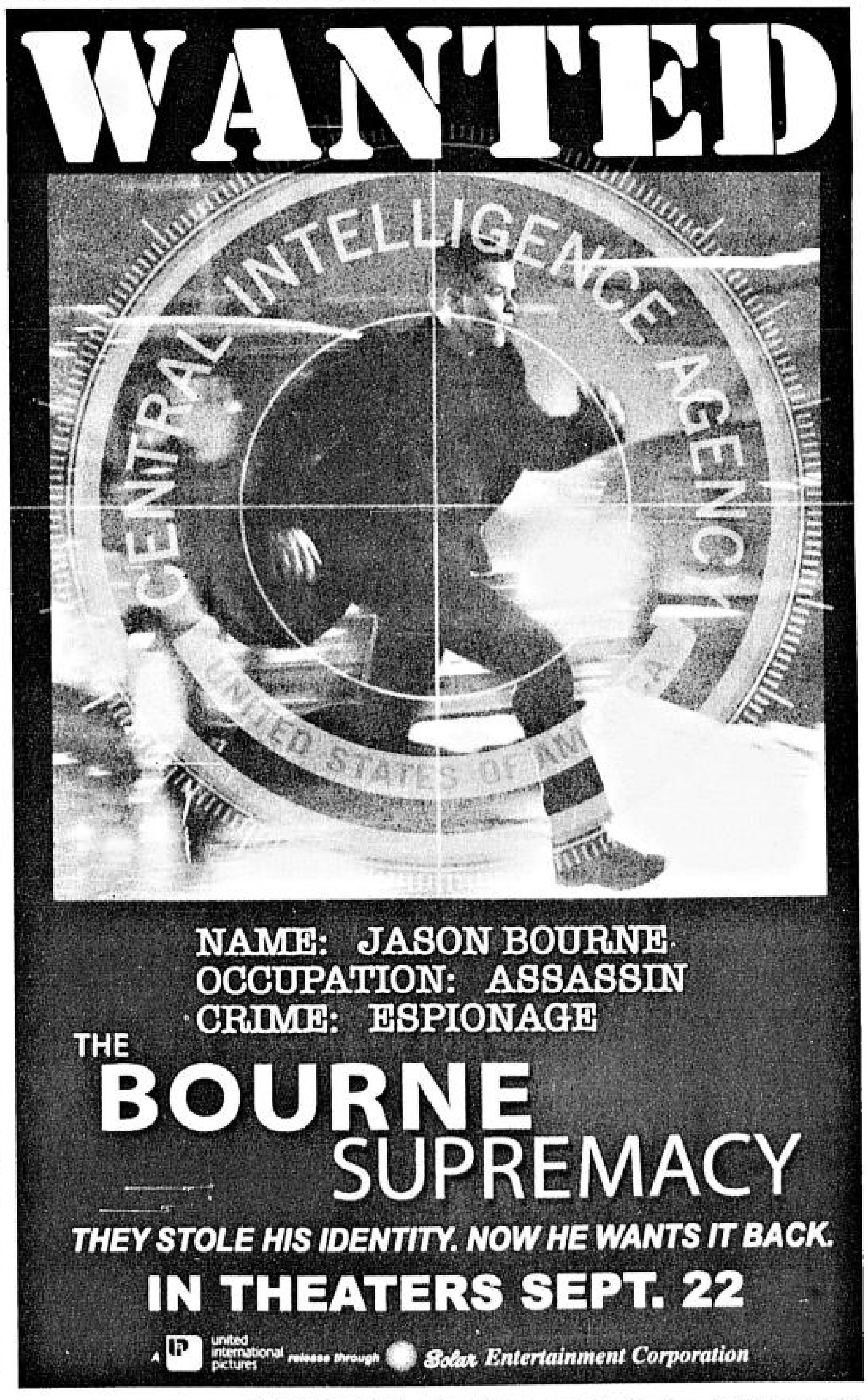
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THE NOTEBOOK PG13 12:00,2:40,5:10,7:40,10:10	ANACONDAS PG13 12:50,3:05,5.20,7.35,9.50	TERMINAL GP 12:10,2:45,5:20,7:55,10:30

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MTRCB Rating : (GP)
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LMF 9 50PM
MTRCB Rating : (GP)
4 DODGEBALL
FS : 12 10PM, 2:25PM, 4:40PM, 6:55PM
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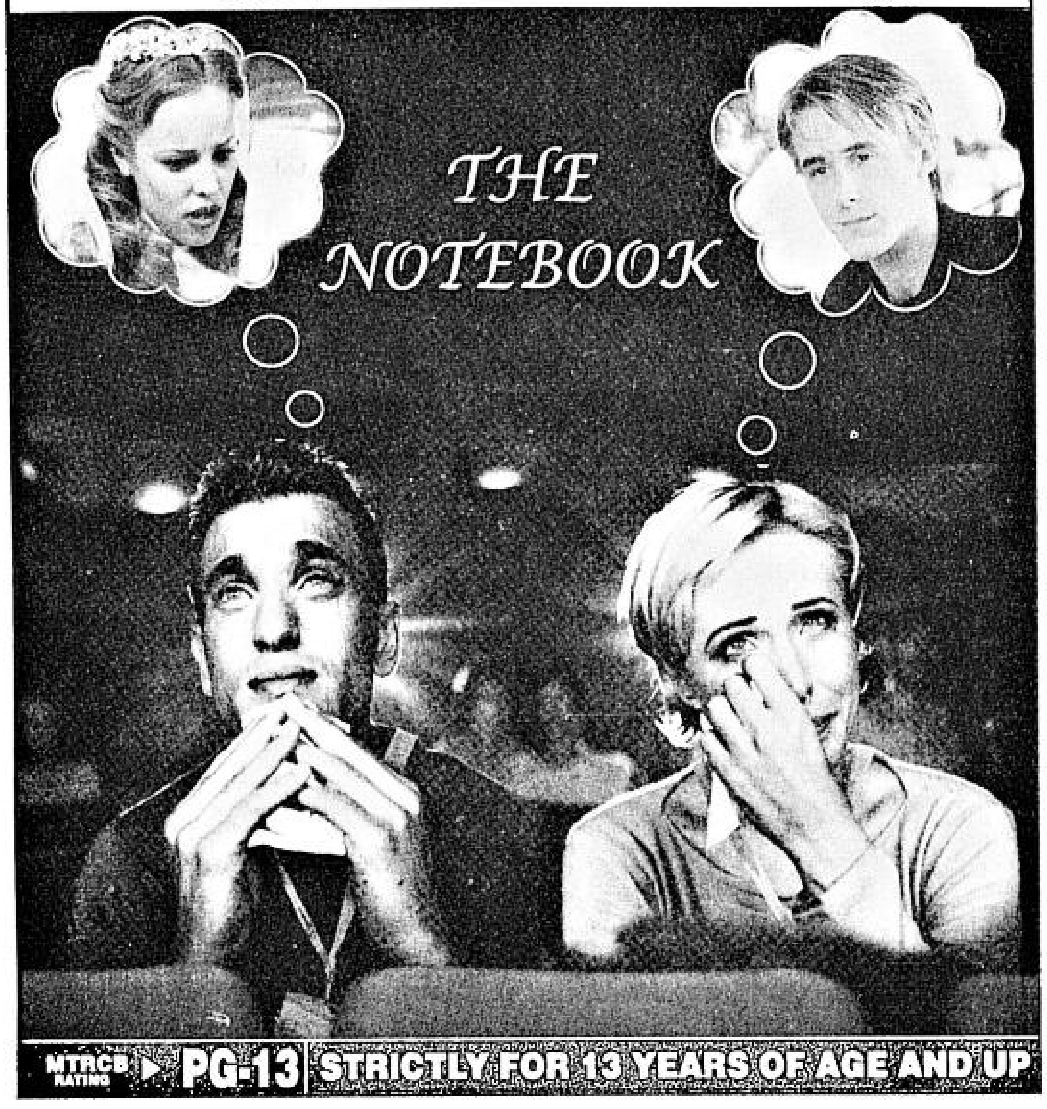

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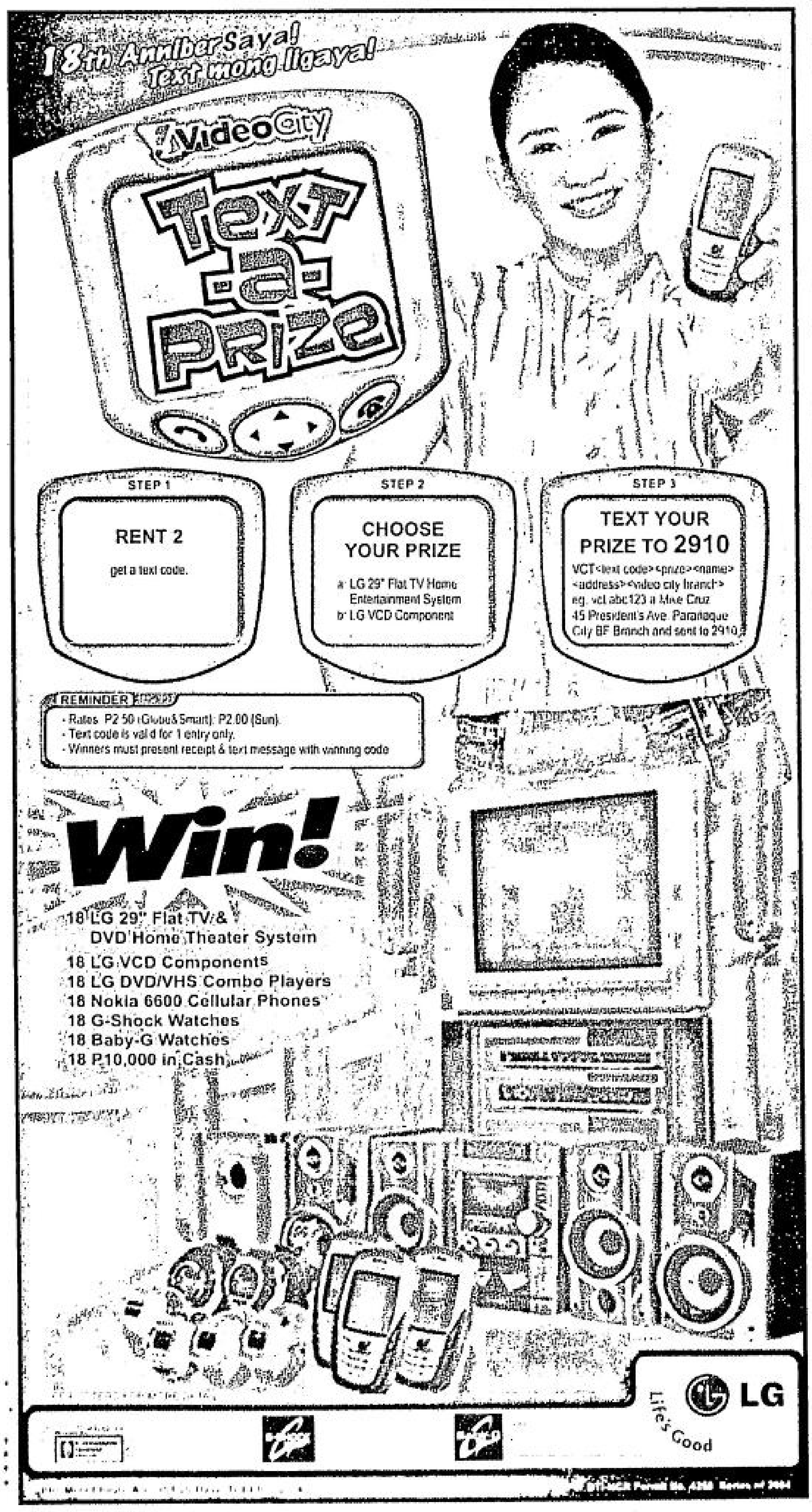

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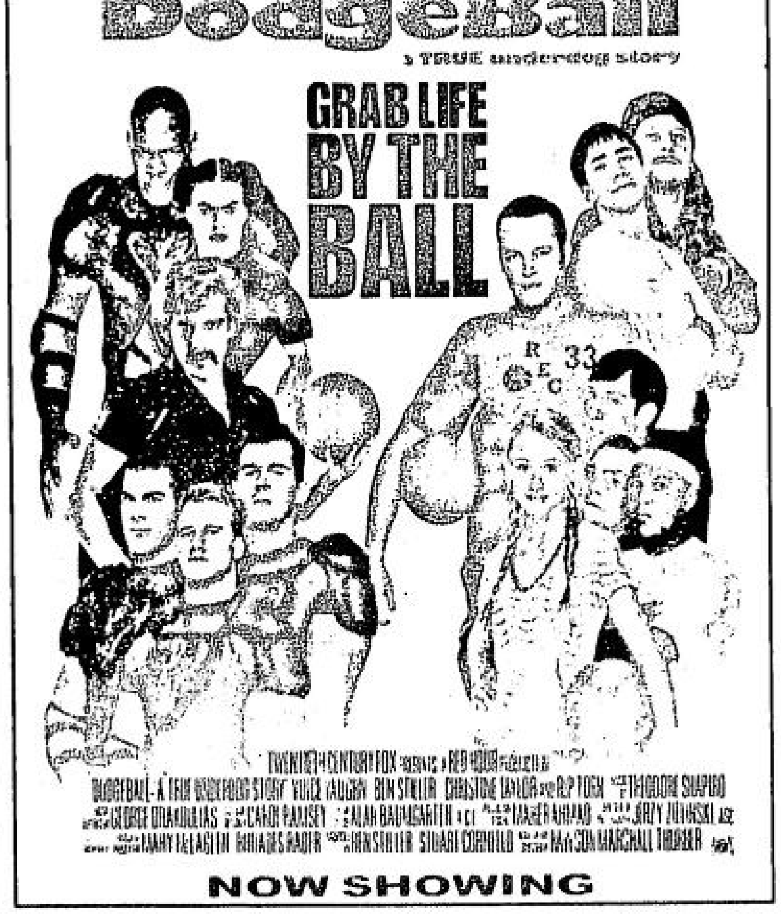

GRAB LIFE BY THE BALL

NOW SHOWING

Anne Curtis wants to become a versatile actress

By Jocelyn Valle

CURTIS. Wonderful working relationship with her co-stars on TV.

ANNE Curtis wipes tears off her face as she enters the room from a taping of the *teleserye*, "Hiram." "It's hard to act in a soap opera. For sometime, I only acted in comedies," she says, smiling now. "I came from 'Asap Mania,' so I was in high spirits when I got here. But, I had to cry for my first scene in 'Hiram!'"

In the series, she plays her total opposite. Her character, Stephanie, is unloved by her mother Sophia (Dina Bonnevie). "My director, Jerry Lopez Sineneng, helps me a lot. He asks me, 'When was the late time you were betrayed?' "

Aquarians

Anne values her wonderful working relationship with co-stars Dina, Kris Aquino and Heart Evangelista. "We're all Aquarians, so *magkaka-ugali kami*," she avers.

ANNE/ A2-3

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3 Dolby ANACONDAS
10:10 am 12:20 pm 2:30 pm 4:40 pm 6:50 pm 9:00 pm
4 SDDS THE TERMINAL
12:25 pm 3:15 pm 6:05 pm 8:55 pm
5 dts DODGEBALL
12:00 nn 2:15 pm 4:30 pm 6:45 pm 9:00 pm
6 Dolby TOOL BOX MURDERS
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TANDEM-1	SUGAT
TANDEM-2	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
TIMES	SPY / LEGEND OF CROCODILE

QUEZON CITY	
ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	ORIGINAL SIN
ACT-4	HANGGANG KAILAN KA PAPATAY
CORONET A	TAG-INIT
CORONET B	A MAN APART
QUEZON-1	BERTUD NG PUTIK
REMAR	X-MEN 2
REMAR-2	BOLD STAR

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A	HAMOG
B	CLOSED
C	

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CINEMA 1, 2, 3 & 4	THE NOTEBOOK/THE TERMINAL/PRINCESS DIARIES 2/DODGEBALL
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CINEMA-1	NOW THAT I HAVE YOU
CINEMA-2	HAMOG
CINEMA-3	THE VILLAGE
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	ANACONDAS
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	SUGAT (RE-ISSUE)
CINEMA-6	BANGKOK HAUNTED 2
CINEMA-7	LAWS OF ATTRACTION
CINEMA-8	THUNDERBIRDS
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	ANACONDAS
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	ANACONDAS
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	PRINCESS DIARIES 2
CINEMA-12	THE NOTEBOOK
CINEMA-14	JANDARA
CINEMA-15	ALIEN VS. PREDATOR

LORES	
CINEMA-2	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-3	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT

NE CINEMAGIC - CABANATUAN	
(LAS PIÑAS)	ALIEN VS PREDATOR
CINEMA-1	NOW THAT I HAVE YOU
CINEMA-2	GARFIELD
CINEMA 4	[illegible]

UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL	
(PARAÑAQUE)	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-1	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
CINEMA-2	MEN IN BLACK II
CINEMA 4	[illegible]

SATURDAY Special

NOW SHOWING

Hanks, Spielberg deliver another winner

By Rito P. Asilo

"The Terminal"

D: Steven Spielberg
S: Tom Hanks, Catherine Zeta Jones

ZETA JONES (left), Kumar Pallana (center) and Hanks (right) in "The Terminal."

IN this week's must-see movie, an Eastern European tourist, Viktor Navorski (a superbly charismatic Tom Hanks), finds himself stuck at the terminal of New York's John F. Kennedy airport after a coup d'etat leaves his native country in turmoil—making his travel documents invalid, and Viktor a "man without a country."

Suddenly, he is unable to go home and is ineligible for entry into the US—a tourist's worst nightmare! So, Viktor takes up residence in the terminal, and uses his innate ingenuity to find food and earn a living, while he waits for his country's political situation to ease up.

In the process, he gets to know the various people who inhabit the place—and even meets and gets a crush on a beautiful flight attendant (Zeta Jones), a damsel in distress who keeps falling for the wrong man.

The movie works on two levels: As a sweet, effortless comedy about a man caught in dire circumstances beyond his control, and as an ingeniously crafted cinematic metaphor for the evils of bureaucracy (which characterizes a great number of government agencies—local or foreign)—and how the resilience of the human spirit wins over seemingly insurmountable adversities. (Tell me you can't relate to this, and I'll say you're fibbing.)

The story seems highly improbable, but Spielberg's characters bristle with such vulnerability and humanity that it's hard to tell the protagonists from the antagonists.

(In fact, "Terminal" is loosely based on the predicament, not the story and circumstances of exile, of Merhan Nasseri, a 58-year-old Iranian national who has spent 15 years living in the terminal of Paris' Charles de Gaulle airport in France. In 1988, on his way to London, after claiming loss of his passport in France, he decided to take up residence at the airport—and has lived there since! Dreamworks reportedly paid Nasseri a hefty $275,000 for the rights to his story.)

Hanks paces the talented cast that includes Zeta Jones, Diego Luna ("Y Tu Mama Tambien"), Stanley Tucci and Zoe Saldana. Need we say that the production and technical values are topnotch? Some people may find this film a little sappy. But, if it's this good, who cares?

"Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story"

D: Rawson Thurber
S: Vince Vaughn, Ben Stiller

Peter La Fleur (Vince Vaughn) is about to lose his rundown gym, Average Joe's, to White Goodman's (Ben Stiller) gym chain—unless he steers his team of ragtag, intellectually-challenged teammates to a $50,000 victory at the Vegas dodgeball tournament. Not if Goodman has his way, of course!

Stiller plays another kooky character, and his performance comes off relatively well. But, it's Rip Torn who steals scenes as the colorful coach (a role he plays with lunatic gusto) of Vaughn's team.

Thurber's movie is silly and predictable, but it amuses and entertains, with its fast-paced editing, dead-on humor and unpretentious gags.

Cameo alert: Lance Armstrong, Chuck Norris, William Shatner and David Hasselhoff.

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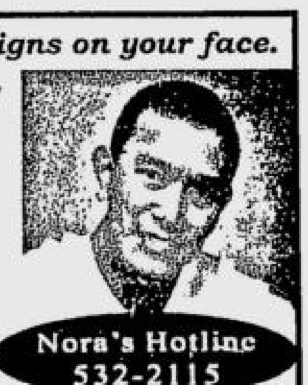

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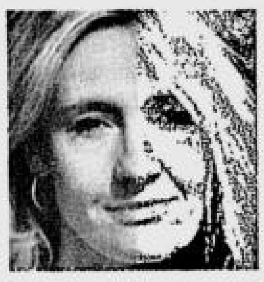
J.K. Rowling gives sneak preview of new Harry Potter title



ROWLING. Tantalizing hints.

LONDON—Best-selling children's author J. K. Rowling has given fans of her Harry Potter books a brief but tantalizing taste of the next title in the series chronicling the boy wizard's adventures, a report said recently.

Visitors to her website, www.jkrowling.com, were able to play an online game of darts, which, if accomplished successfully, revealed the picture of a safe on the page, the Sun newspaper said.

Those able to crack the safe's code were able to see two sentences from the as-yet unreleased sixth book in the series, "Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince."

Creation

Rowling's website has proved astonishingly successful among Harry Potter fans eager for information about her creation between books.

In July, it was reported that in the eight weeks the site had been up and running, it had received an astonishing 220 million visits.

Secrets

The extract from the latest book is unlikely to reveal any secrets to even the most ardent Potter-philes, reading, according to the Sun: "He looked rather like an old lion.

"There were streaks of grey in his tawny hair and his bushy eyebrows; he had keen yellowish eyes behind a pair of wire-rimmed spectacles and a certain rangy, loping grace, even though he walked with a slight limp."

The next book will be the second to the last in the planned series of seven, which have already spawned three hugely successful spin-off films. *AFP*

'Out' needs to deal with its own biases

By Nestor U. Torre

LAST Saturday, Channel 7 started telecasting "Out," its new show about the gay life. Since gays are said to comprise some 10 percent of the population, there is a clear and felt need for such a show.

Unfortunately, the first telecast occasionally took the program into some relatively unpromising and inefficient directions, so some reassessment may be in order.

For one thing, the show's "confessional" tone (its three hosts "outed" themselves on-camera) is good for the program's honesty factor and could motivate some viewers to be similarly forthcoming in their own lives, but the way it was presented was too simplistic and even insensitive.

Privacy

For instance, we felt for the sister of one of the hosts, who had to hear her brother's "confession" in full view of many viewers. That was a difficult and complex moment for her, and since she isn't a TV professional, her privacy should have been respected.

There also appeared to be a problem with finding representative gay and lesbian couples to appear on the program.

The ideal would be to show that members of the third sex need not be impersonators, *parloristas* and other vivid and even lurid types. But most other types could be inhibited by the prospect of coming out on such a public medium as television, so the first telecast was mainly limited to showing the more florid types.

This is an aspect of gayness that is already well-represented and even exploited on many sitcoms, variety shows and other TV programs, so "Out" made little new contribution in this regard.

More creative

Thus, it has to be more creative about getting the non-show biz types of gays to contribute to its laudable endeavor to expand and enrich the viewing public's perception of the gay community.

If non-show biz gays balk at appearing on TV, more judiciously controlled and perhaps covert interviews could be conducted.

Also, talent scouts with more varied contacts should be employed, to enrich the program's line-up of guests beyond the usual swishy or butch-femme types.

Delimiting context

The show should further expand its own perception of gays beyond their "entertainment" and "psychological pain" aspects, to include the delimiting context of pertinent societal attitudes, kneejerk responses, and laws.

In other words, to liberate its viewers, the show must first free itself of its own limitations and biases.

A lot of help could be provided by greater access to psychologists who could clarify the roots and nature of gayness, so that both gay and straight viewers can relate to it in a more informed and less kneejerk way.

The important thing is to go beyond initial buzz, controversy and shock value, to more productively shed light on that lavender closet—both inside it, and out.

Dear Ate,
I have a lot of secrets and I want to share them with you. I think I'm in love again. Hindi kay mister, love ko na yun dati pa. Iba ito. Iba siya. Mas pinasarap niya ang buhay ko.

PORK PASTEL

CRUST:
4 cups All purpose flour
1 tbsp. Sugar
1 tsp. Fine salt
1 tsp. Baking powder
1 cup Bakers Best Margarine, cut into small pieces
1/2 cup Cold water

Procedure: Mix flour, sugar, salt and baking powder. Cut margarine and mix to form pea size crumbs. Sprinkle water a tablespoon at a time and mix to form a ball. Refrigerate for one hour or freeze for 30 minutes. Roll out into a thin sheet. Rolling should be stiff to get a good result and roll in between two sheets of wax paper. Use to cover pastel placed in a baking dish. Prick crust with a fork to allow air to pass and prevent ballooning of crust. Bake at 350 degrees Fahrenheit for 15 to 20 minutes or until golden in color.

Makes 6 to 8 servings.

FILLING:
1/4 cup Dari Crème Classic Margarine
1 tbsp. Minced garlic
1/2 cup Chopped onions
1 cup Red and green bell peppers, sliced into cubes
1-210 gm can Purefoods Chorizo Bilbao, sliced
1/2 kilo Monterey Pork Kasim (shoulder) menudo cut
1 cup Potatoes, sliced into cubes
1 cup Carrots, sliced into cubes
1-210 gm can Purefoods Vienna Tidbits
1/2 cup MAGNOLIA QUICKMELT CHEESE, grated
3 to 4 cups water

Procedure: Melt margarine in a saucepan. Saute garlic and onions. Add bell peppers, chorizo and pork kasim. Cook until pork changes in color. Pour in water and broth of Vienna tidbits. Cover and let boil. Allow to simmer and keep covered until meat is tender. Add potatoes and cook until tender. Stir in carrots and Vienna tidbits. Cook for a couple of minutes and add MAGNOLIA QUICKMELT CHEESE. Mix well.

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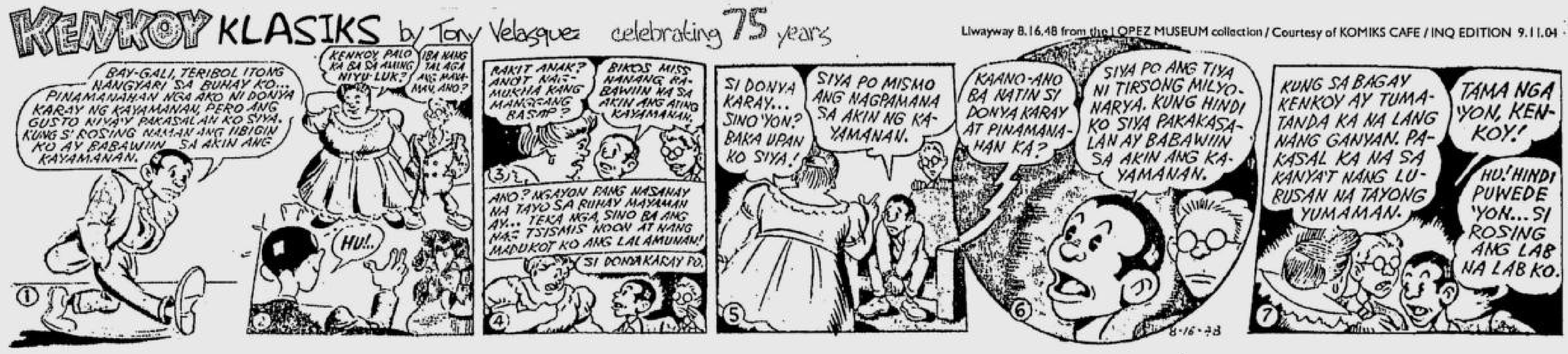
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①
KENKOY, PALO KA BA SA AMING NIYU LUK?
IBA NANG TALAGA ANG MAYAMAN, ANO?
HU!..
RAKIT ANAK? ANOT NAG-MUKHA KANG MANGGANG BASAP?
BIKOS MISS NANANG, BA-BAWIIN NA SA AKIN ANG AMING KAYAMANAN.
③
ANO? NGAYON PANG NASAHAY NA TAYO SA BUHAY MAYAMAN AY... TEKA NGA, SINO BA ANG NAG-TSISMIS NOON AT NANG MADUKOT KO ANG LALAMUNAN!
SI DONYA KARAY PO.
④
SI DONYA KARAY... SINO 'YON? BAKA UPAN KO SIYA!
SIYA PO MISMO ANG NAGPAMANA SA AKIN NG KA-YAMANAN.
⑤
KAANO-ANO BA NATIN SI DONYA KARAY AT PINAMANA-HAN KA?
SIYA PO ANG TIYA NI TIRSONG MILYO-NARYA. KUNG HINDI KO SIYA PAKAKASA-LAN AY BABAWIIN SA AKIN ANG KA-YAMANAN.
⑥
8-16-48
KUNG SA BAGAY KENKOY AY TUMA-TANDA KA NA LANG NANG GANYAN. PA-KASAL KA NA SA KANYA'T NANG LU-RUSAN NA TAYONG YUMAMAN.
TAMA NGA 'YON, KEN-KOY!
HU! HINDI PUWEDE 'YON... SI ROSING ANG LAB NA LAB KO.
⑦

Liwayway 8.16.48 from the LOPEZ MUSEUM collection / Courtesy of KOMIKS CAFE / INQ EDITION 9.11.04

Hope, positive vibe in new Sergio Mendes compilation

By Rito P. Asilo

SERGIO Mendes initially became famous in the '60s for interweaving two beautiful female voices in his songs. Through a series of breezy easy-listening bossa nova tracks, he caught the attention of producer Herb Alpert, and soon became a household name.

In the recent compilation, "The Ultimate Hits—Sergio Mendes: 3 Decades of Music," the magic Mendes weaves affirms the timelessness of his music—though the popular song, "The Trouble With Hello Is Goodbye," is conspicuously absent.

MENDES. Timeless music.

Fresh cover

The first track, a fresh cover of Jorge Ben's "Mais Que Nada" (which means "It's nothing"), was his group's first hit. He signed up the then unknown Lani Hall ("Come What May") to sing lead vocals with Janis Hansen and Karen Philipp. And the rest is history.

The 19-track collection, a musical potpourri with unabashedly strong sentiments about love, longing and second chances, covers the most commercially successful period of the band. They tend to be repetitive—but, they are characterized by messages of hope and a positive vibe. And God knows we need them these days!

Soaring vocals

"Rainbow's Ends" features soaring vocals and an upbeat chorus: "Just one more story from a lonely road/Just one more chapter and a second chance/ Another journey and the wishing well out on a rainbow's end."

In "Put A Little Love Away," he advises the broken-hearted: "Everybody needs a penny for a rainy day/Keep another thought in mind/Somebody's gonna leave/ Somebody's gonna stay behind/ So, put a little love away." How practical!

Our top pick is the frolicky "Waters of March" which, despite being consistently reworked by singers, is still a joy to listen to—a reminder that everything around us may seem unimportant, but we can also derive joy from them:

Amusing

"A stick, a stone…it's the end of the road/ It's the end of the stump… it's a beam, it's a void/ it's a hunch…it's a hope/ and the rivers, they talk of the waters of March/ It's the end of the strain/ It's the joy in your heart." Sappy romantic poetry fills his lyrics, but it's nevertheless amusing.

Repeated spins of the collection will allow you to rediscover narrative depths that are sometimes overshadowed by musical sentimentality.

His emotionalism may seem overpowering sometimes, but when these songs are sung by powerful voices that give them life and meaning, how can we complain? We sing and hum them still, don't we?

Keeping cable TV rates down

By Nestor U. Torre

RECENTLY, we heard that some cable service suppliers were thinking of raising their subscription rates by as much as 20 percent. Factors cited include higher operating costs, failure to avail of tax credits, higher annual fees billed by overseas programmers, and the peso's depreciation against the US dollar.

The increase in cable TV fees may be warranted, but customers are so strapped for the additional funds needed that they may not be able to pay the higher rates.

Less extensive

Thus, they could be forced to shift to the less extensive, but also less expensive cable schemes offered by smaller suppliers—or stop paying for cable TV completely!

Nobody wants that to happen, so cable suppliers should listen to the alternative scheme proposed by some viewers: They want to pay the same rates for fewer channels, provided that the remaining channels are to their liking.

Now, we know that the "good" channels cost big money to access from overseas, while the channels in obscure languages cost much less and are even included for free in the "bundle" of cable channels packaged by overseas programmers.

Solution

So, the solution doesn't lie in simply narrowing our cable viewing options to the best ones, but coming up with a compromise package of "must-sees" and "could-sees."

Take a look at current cable offerings: Animal Planet, Animax, AXN, BBC World, Cartoon Network, Channel V, Cinema One, Cinemax, CNBC Asia, CNN, Discovery, Disney, ESPN, ETC, Fox News, Hallmark, HBO Asia, Knowledge, Lifestyle Network, MYX, National Geographic, Nickelodeon, Solar USA, Solar Sports, Sports Plus, Star Mandarin, Star Movies, Star Sports, Star World, TCT World, EWTN.

Several packages could be offered, with different rates of payment. For many of these offerings, the current fee of P2,000 per quarter could still be charged. For more viewing options, a higher fee could be collected.

But, for people who can pay only a budget rate, a more selective but still, representative listing could be drawn up: One channel each for news, movies, programs for children, sports, religion, show biz, science, reality TV, the arts, lifestyle.

Preferences

That's only 10 cable channels, but they would fairly comprehensively service viewers' TV preferences. Would a cable supplier agree to package that modest but adequate mini-bundle?

The viewing options would be reduced, but so would the costs and cable fees, so more people could sign up. The important thing is, the price spiral would be controlled, neutralized and even brought down. So, less would really end up being more!

MONTAGE

CBCP sets new 'Catholic TV Advocacy' seminar

LAST June, the Office on Women of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines held a very successful seminar, "Catholic Advocacy for Television."

The pioneering seminar sought to effectively understand television in all its aspects, as it is currently being practised in the Philippines, with the view in mind of objectively and proficiently evaluating the effect of TV programs, particularly on young viewers.

It then went on to launch a new Catholic initiative for regular TV assessment and review, for the guidance of parents, educators, religious, lay leaders and students who are concerned about what children and teen viewers watch.

The seminar's success prompted requests for another workshop on Sept. 17 and 18 (Friday and Saturday), this time at the Office on Women offices at the CBCP compound. Call 527-1925, 527-8031 or 0927-644-7300.

The new seminar is organized by Dr. Zenaida V. Rotea and will have Nestor U. Torre as its facilitator.

'The Hunt for Osama Bin Laden'

A one-hour special, "The Hunt for Osama Bin Laden," airs tonight at 9 on the Discovery Channel, marking the third anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on New York and Washington.

Why does Bin Laden remain at large? The special goes inside the American intelligence community to survey the efforts to bring the world's most wanted terrorist to justice.

Search for Playful Parents

The Nickelodeon Channel takes to the streets of the Philippines, Singapore, Malaysia and New Zealand to find a parent in each country who is best able to describe how he or she plays with his kids.

Parents are invited to send in entry forms and other requirements to the Nickelodeon office at Unit C, The Fort Entertainment Center, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig, or through www.nicksplay.com/playful parent before Sept. 24.

One lucky parent from the Philippines will be selected to appear on Nickelodeon with his or her kid in November.

JENNIFER Garner stars in "13 Going on 30."

'13 Going on 30'

Mellow Touch 94.7 and Columbia Pictures invite viewers to the premiere of the hit romantic comedy, "13 Going on 30." The special screening will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Sept. 13 at Robinson's Movieworld at Robinson's Galleria. For free invites, listen to 94.7

Movies on TV

On the Cinemax channel, Sept. 11 at 9 p.m., "Dolores Clairborne." Sept. 12 at 7:30 a.m., "The Age of Innocence." Sept. 13 at 9 p.m., "Peggy Sue Got Married." Sept. 14 at 7 :30 a.m., "Torn Curtain." Sept. 15 at 12:40 a.m., "Virtual Storm." Sept. 16 at 5:15 p.m., "The People Across the Lake." Sept. 17 at 9:15 a.m., "Thoroughly Modern Millie."

'Anaconda' opens at No. 1

The competition was eaten alive at the box office as the new action-adventure, "Anacondas: The Hunt for the Blood Orchid," opened at No. 1 in the Philippines for the Sept. 1-5 weekend, with a nationwide gross of P31.4 million.

The gross surpasses the opening of the 1997 original "Anaconda" film starring Jennifer Lopez.

YOUR WEEKLY TV GUIDE FROM SEPT. 11 - SEPT. 17

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Film protagonists face daunting challenges

By Nestor U. Torre

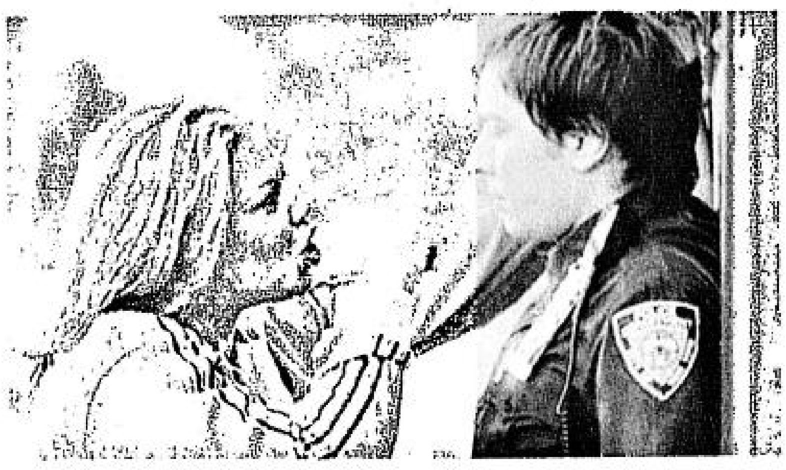
"OPEN Water," which made waves at the 2004 Sundance Film Festival, has become the most successful independently-produced film of the year.

Made on a budget of $300,000 by Chris Kentis, "Open Water" has already grossed an impressive $23.5 million after two weeks of release. It was the first film picked up for distribution from among the Sundance entries this year.

Decision

Based on true events, "Open Water" is about a young couple on a scuba diving holiday, who find that they've been left behind by their boat. They now face the decision of either trying to swim to another island, or staying where they are in the hope that they will soon be found.

Another film that subjects its protagonists to unusual tests of will is "Ladder 49." The action-thriller starring John Travolta and Joaquin Phoenix focuses on Baltimore firefighter Jack Morrison (Phoenix) as he makes the transition from rookie to seasoned veteran.


"TAXI." Queen Latifah gives a stunned and speechless victim a piece of her mind.

"RAISING HELEN." Kate Hudson (left) with one of the film's child performers.

"OPEN WATER." Scuba divers cope with the dangers of the briny deep.

As he struggles to cope with his risky and difficult job that often shortchanges his wife and kids, he relies on the support of his chief, Mike Kennedy (Travolta), and his second family, the other firefighters in his team.

When Jack becomes trapped in the worst blaze of his career, his life and the aspects of it that he holds most dear—family, dignity, courage—come into focus. As his fellow firemen do all they can to rescue him, Jack's life hangs in the balance.

For its part, Tim Story's "Taxi" is a buddy comedy, but it also places its leading lady, Queen Latifah, in a tough spot as it casts her in the unconventional role of "speed queen of car drivers."

Right actress

To do justice to the role, Queen Latifah had to train hard to convince viewers that she was the right actress for the part, with driving and racing lessons from morning till night.

But it was all worth it, because Queen Latifah's stunts in the movie make it an exciting and bemusing viewing treat.

Her buddy in the film is played by young comedian Jimmy Fallon. *His* challenge in "Taxi" is to convince viewers that he's the world's worst driver!

And, in "Secret Window," Johnny Depp's big challenge is to survive the onslaught of a psycho hillbilly who believes that Depp's character plagiarized his story.

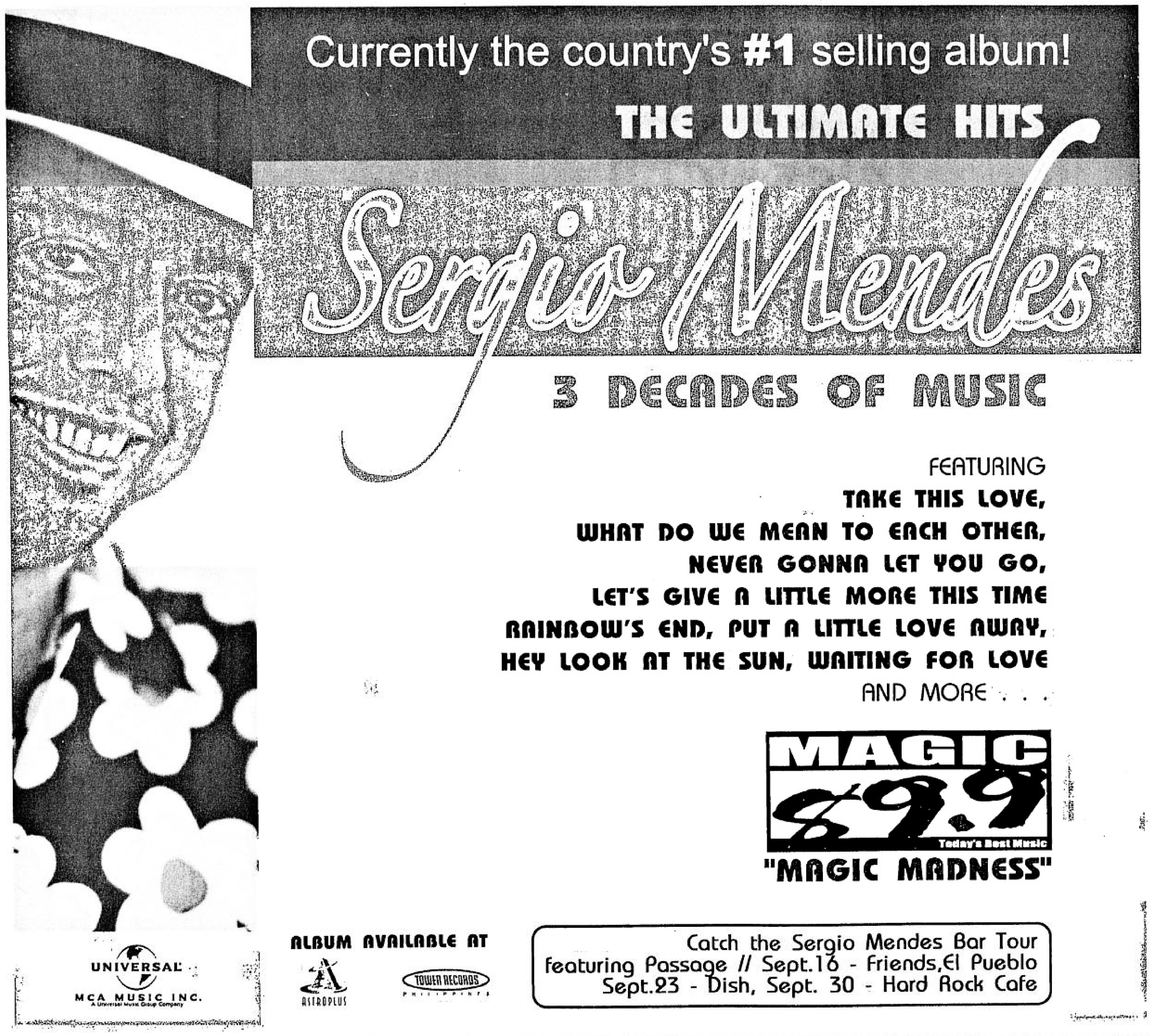
Depp makes his character, Mort, a disheveled hard-lucky case. He starts out depressed and weak-willed, but as the danger escalates, he discovers heretofore untapped pockets of courage and righteous ruthlessness that enable him to subdue his tormentor and adversary.

Glittering world

Finally, "Raising Helen" stars Kate Hudson as a high-flying career woman whose glittering world comes crashing down when she is compelled to take care of her sister's three young children.

Her world is effectively turned upside-down and even inside-out, but she can't afford to fail, because the three kids are completely dependent on her and her gutsy resolve.

"LADDER 49." Film about firefighters stars John Travolta and Joaquin Phoenix.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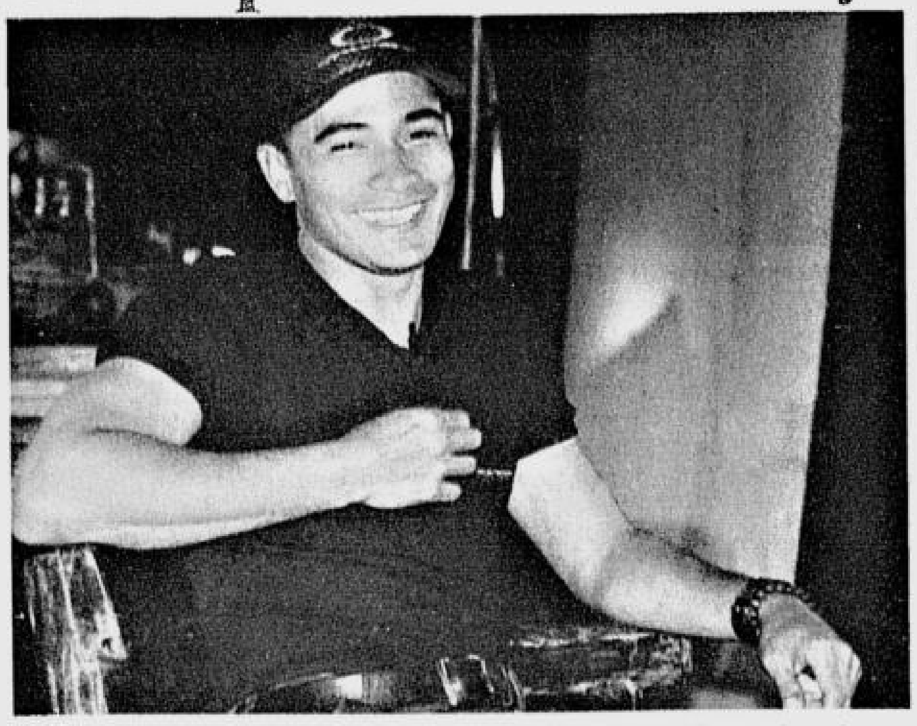
SUN CELLULAR PREPAID

Cesar Montano wants to revive Visayan motion picture industry

By Behn Cervantes

IN THE '50s, the Visayan film industry, which was based in Cebu, was active and thriving. *Bisaya*, after all, is spoken all over the islands, and as far as Mindanao. Some people claim that the dialect is more widely spoken than Tagalog, although the latter has become more popular due to Manila-produced films and TV shows.



MONTANO. Intends to produce more films that will address Visayans' needs.

Forefront

Matt Ranillo and Gloria Sevilla were at the forefront of this alternative to Manila-produced films. Other Visayan celebrities include Chanda Romero, Pilita Corrales, Caridad Sanchez, Dulce, Pinky Marquez and Cesar Montano, who hails from nearby Bohol.

Cesar has reached the pinnacle of his career. Over the years, he has proven himself a potent box-office attraction in commercial and dramatic vehicles. He's also at home in action flicks and in romantic vehicles.

He has revealed his dark side in critically-acclaimed films like "Muro Ami," "Bagong Buwan" and "Rizal." As an actor, he has battled the veritable quixotic windmills.

"Panaghoy sa Suba," a film that Cesar is producing, starring and directing in his native Bohol is his latest uphill battle. Cesar hopes Visayan-produced films in their native language will be an alternative to Manila-produced films meant for a Tagalog-speaking audience.

Aspirations

He intends to produce more films that will address Visayans' needs and express their aspirations while highlighting their culture, history and sensibilities.

The move to produce Visayan films also intends to decentralize the Filipino film industry.

Over the years, Cesar has quietly fought what to others seem like windmills. Despite vast amounts offered for his service, he turned down millions of pesos to advertise alcoholic products and cigarettes.

He reasons that celebrities must consider young fans who might get wrong signals from the irresponsible stars they emulate.

His manager, Norma Japitana, shakes her head at the income lost, although she does so with obvious admiration for her ward's unflinching principles.

Latest battle

Therefore, Cesar's latest battle has rhyme and reason. It is deeper than it appears. Fortunately for the local film industry, there are artists like him who look beyond profit and consider the long-term consequences of such derring-do. With Norma J, scriptwriter Cris Vertido and other friends behind him, Cesar has the moral and financial support to continue his battles in order to discover new horizons with greater meaning for an audience presently trapped by conditions not of their making.

To achieve success in seldom tapped territories requires daring, enduring fortitude, and steadfast friends. Fortunately, Cesar has all of the above. We can only extol this warrior for his (nearly) impossible but laudable dreams.

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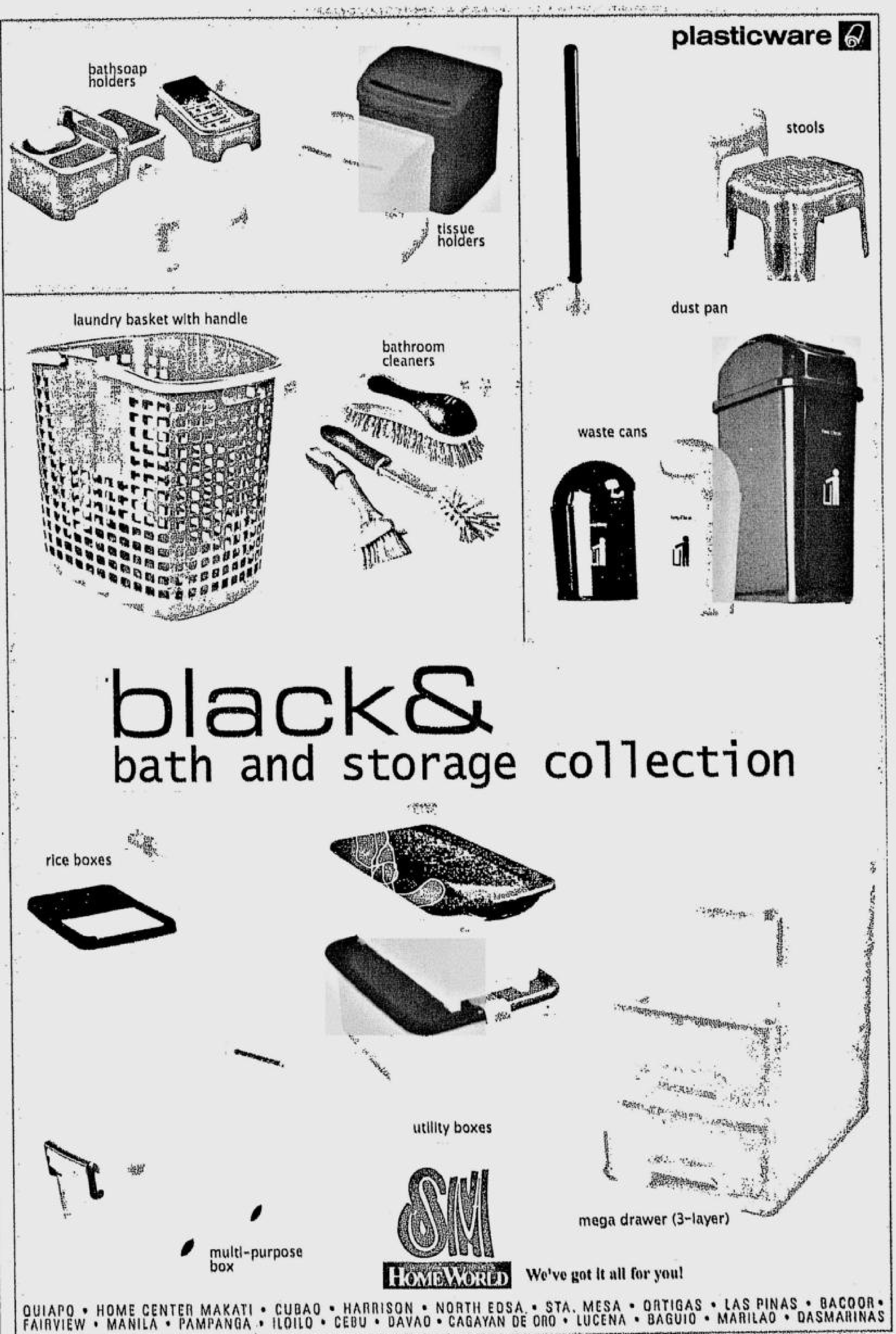

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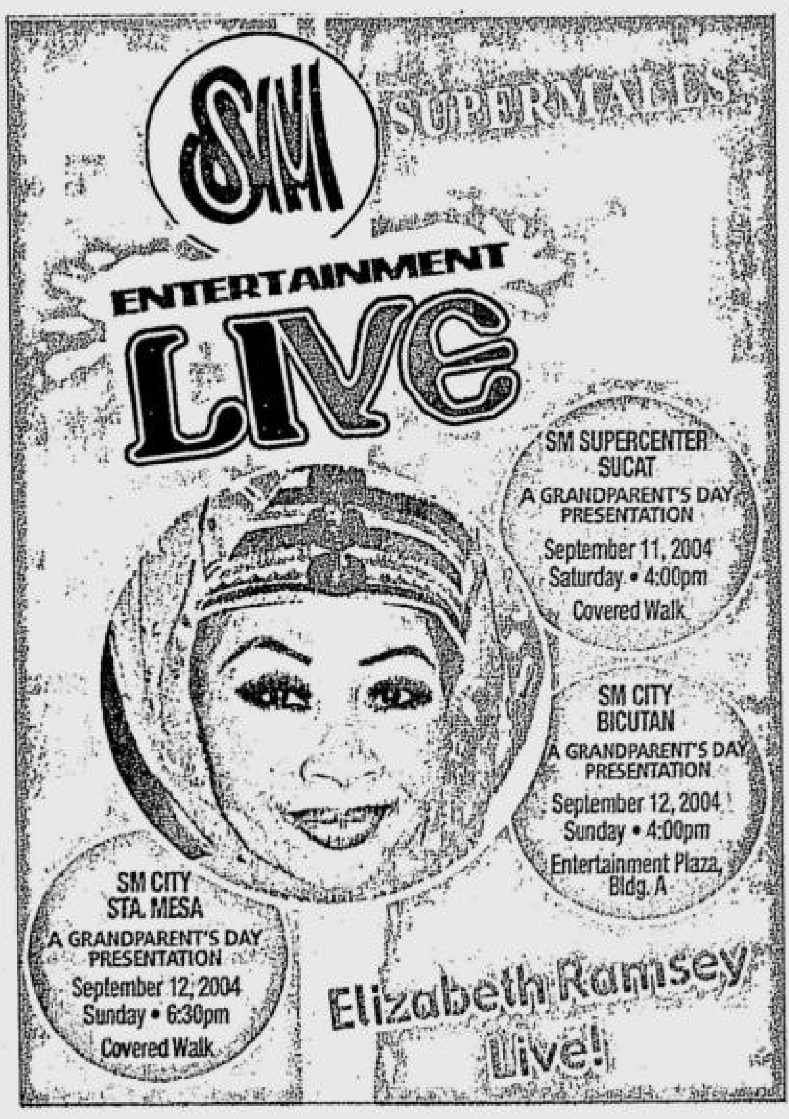
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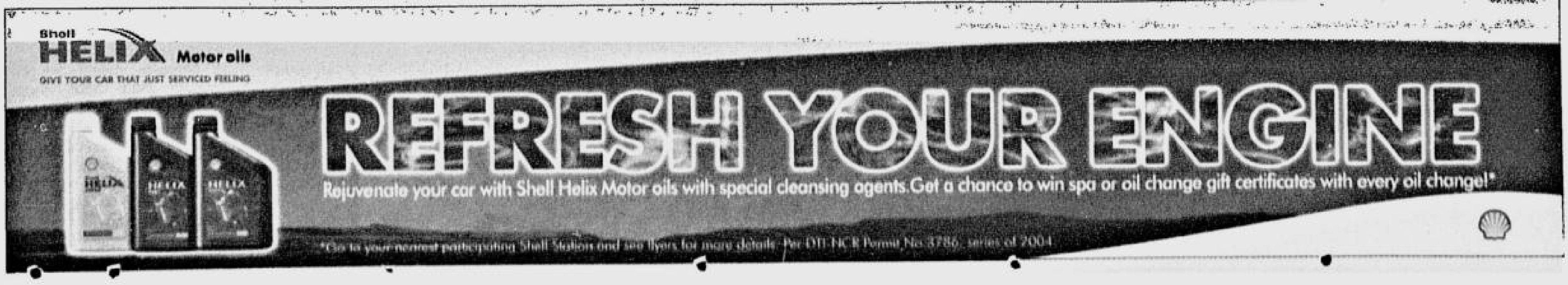
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Emotion never lingers in 'Vanity Fair'

By Anthony Breznican

LOS ANGELES—Adapting centuries-old literature into a modern Hollywood movie is always a dicey enterprise, if for no other reason than a dense 19th century novel is likely to include much more of the necessary detail and historical context for a 21st century reader to relate to the characters and their motivations.

Those getting their primary introduction to William Makepeace Thackeray's "Vanity Fair" from the new film starring Reese Witherspoon will find themselves frequently adrift as director Mira Nair sprints through the epic-sized story.

Impoverished orphan

Witherspoon stars as Becky Sharp, an impoverished orphan who uses her beauty, charm and education to climb up the restrictive social boundaries of London in the early 1800s.

Cruel fat cats

Everyone is preoccupied with title, appearance and money to a degree that is sickening and, ultimately, pretty dull. You want to cheer for Becky as she tries to improve her lot, but there is no room for romance, no interest in joy, no especially clever skewering of the cruel fat cats.

Becky is a gold digger to the end. Witherspoon's accent is dead-on, but her performance remains cold. You don't care about Becky's success, nor for the downfall of her prey. Perhaps she remains "of her time," and the American notion of the pursuit of happiness renders quaint her quest for baubles and fawning.

Becky insinuates herself into the upper crust as a governess, teaching the children of down-on-his-luck Sir Pitt (a grizzled Bob Hoskins) for a brief time and helping him clean up his cluttered old mansion to impress a rich old relative (Eileen Atkins), who has more money than she can live to spend.

JAMES Purefoy and Reese Witherspoon star in Mira Nair's "Vanity Fair." AP

This is the primary goal of each character: try to look like you don't need money to impress those who do. Then maybe they'll die and leave you some actual class, and then perhaps poor relatives will kiss up to you, too.

That's juicy material for satire, but Nair keeps it at arm's length.

Becky takes up with Pitt's son Rawdon, has a son, survives the Napoleonic wars, continually tries to keep her household afloat with gifts from wealthy admirers...

Major character

Meanwhile, her childhood friend Amelia (Romola Garai), a major character from the novel relegated to supporting status in the movie, is not accepted by the family of the wealthy soldier she marries, and she and her son are forced to live a low-caste life after he's killed.

The Amelia subplot offers genuine warmth and tragedy that would have infused the film with something more compelling than Becky's scheming.

Class system

The fates of both women underscore how brutally unfair the class system was, but only Amelia's story is sympathetic.

"Vanity Fair" may not be possible as a feature film.The result is simultaneously too rushed, and too tedious. All too often, one of the story's many vignettes just becomes comfortable when the entire setting changes and it's suddenly 12 years later.

Exposition is delivered in shorthand and the plot payoffs are skimped. Meanwhile, the characters linger in the admittedly sumptuous settings. Occasionally, a particularly potent line of dialogue will rise to jolt life into the proceedings, like a verbal defibrillator, but the emotion never lingers. *AP*

Focus on sex and violence, Pinoy style

By Amadis Ma. Guerrero

ARE Filipino audiences—and we mean the males—tired of bold movies? "Mainstream sexy movies don't make money anymore," said director Erik Matti. "And yet sex is all over, the ads, etc." And, of course, the sleazy tabloids.

Matti's remarks were made during the recent monthly forum of the Cultural Center of the Philippines, entitled "Sining Taktakan." The theme this time was "Sex and Violence—Pinoy Style."

Along with Matti, the other resource persons were Mario Hernando, Eric Ramos, Hermie Beltran, and Richard Somes.

Selling point

Ed Cabagnot, head of the CCP's Film Division, asked Ramos if sex was the selling point of his magazine, FHM, and the latter replied, "Definitely. What's the problem with that? We are a sexual and violent society."

Beltran brought up the matter of depicting women as sex objects, which is "violative of their rights. We have to take a stand. So, we go around the country promoting equality. *Don't* treat women as sex objects!"

The women of FHM, however, don't seem to mind being sex objects, as they cheerfully pose unclad or half-naked. "They do this for publicity," Ramos pointed out. "They are willing to do this. *Makikilala sila, dadami ang* projects *nila* . . . And we don't pay them a centavo."

Hernando noted, "Wherever you go there's exploitation of sex. For the publishers and producers, it's a matter of economics. But the concern of the MTRCB is the young minds of children. If you're old enough to vote, you can see what you want.

Not appropriate

"*Pero ibang usapan ang mga bata*. There are jokes and shows that are not appropriate for TV because children have access to them. The jokes are *bastos*. Also, there's the matter of pornography. It's not for eight-year-olds."

On the other hand, he added, "There are violent films that are artistic."

To which an out-school-youth brought in a new dimension: "*Sa* rally, *me pinukpok ng pulis, doktora pa yata.* Violence *din yon*..."

Matti observed, "Somebody said, if the society lacks ideas, you turn to sex. Look at TV, the sitcoms, no ideas."

Handling

"*Hindi porke't* sex *masama*," Hernando qualified. "Even the Bible has a sexy part. It's in the handling."

Beltran declared, "Sex is the highest form of love. But to make money from someone (who is not too educated) *masama yun*."

So, what can we do?

"Stop patronizing trash," suggested Beltran. "Improve the quality of education," recommended Hernando. "As for the tabloids, police and even ordinary citizens can sue them."

"Let's not just blame others . . . let's do our part. Let's influence other sectors," urged CCP vice president Nanding Josef.

Wisdom from the mouth of babes: "Our environment is a reflection of who we are," said one student. Or, more to the point, what we have become.

Exceptional film artists recalled

By Nestor U. Torre

WE spent an evening with some veteran film stalwarts recently, and they regaled us with stories about colorful and influential movie people, some of whose works are relevant to this day:

For instance, they urged us to take a good second look at Cesar Amigo's "Sa Dulo ng Kris," filmed in the 1970s. It presented an upbeat view of Christian-Muslim relations that should be emulated in Mindanao today.

Conrado Baltazar was cited as an exceptionally gifted cinematographer who did a lot to give Lino Brocka's movies their signature look of compelling realism.

Gifted and versatile

Chat Gallardo was a gifted and versatile filmmaker who is underrated and often overlooked by people who hand out honors, citations and lifetime achievement awards. He is best represented by "Geron Busabos (Ang Batang Quiapo)," "Kalibre .45," "Ransom" and "Tatay Na Si Erap."

Pancho Magalona was admired for his suave portrayals, especially in the romantic musicals he made with his equally popular wife, Tita Duran.

But Pancho had a more serious side to him, which was effectively showcased in "Hanggang sa Dulo bg Daigdig," for which he won an acting award. And he played an attention-calling role in a Hollywood war picture.

Relatively early death

Jay Ilagan was the most gifted young actor of his generation, which made his relatively early death especially tragic. He was exceptional in "Santiago," "Inspiration," "Tubog sa Ginto" and "Soltero."

Other challenging roles were lined up for him, but he gained too much weight, so they were given to other actors, who benefited greatly from them.

ILAGAN. The most gifted young actor of his generation.

Katy dela Cruz was in a class all her own as a brassy, sassy entertainer. She wowed Manila all over again when, already in her '70s, she flew back home to perform again when a musical on her life was presented to great acclaim in the '80s.

Today, Katy is all of 97 years old, and should be honored anew for her many contributions to local show biz.

Appreciation

Mona Lisa is another exceptional senior talent who deserves our appreciation. As Fleur de Lis (her first screen name), she costarred with Fernando Poe Sr. in the '30s movie, "Giliw Ko," one of the earliest Filipino films that have survived the onus of time and neglect.

Mona Lisa enjoyed a second spring in the '70s and '80s as one of Brocka's favorite character actresses.

Ricardo Remias is best remembered as the cinematographer who had the gift for making lovely actresses look even more beautiful on the silver screen. Those actresses are properly grateful to this day!

We were glad to be reminded about the achievements of these and other exceptional film artists. The stories about them gave us a sense of continuity that we should all keep alive in us, to place our movie industry's progress in the correct perspective.

Michael Moore to pursue best picture Oscar

LOS ANGELES—Michael Moore says he won't submit "Fahrenheit 9/11" for consideration as best documentary at this year's Academy Awards. Instead, he's going for the bigger prize of best picture.

Moore's critically acclaimed film slams President George W. Bush's war on terror as lackluster, ill-advised and corrupt. The movie has cheered Democrats, but enraged the president's supporters, who booed Moore when he visited the Republican National Convention last week.

MOORE. Going for the bigger prize this time.

Defeat

"For me, the real Oscar would be Bush's defeat on Nov. 2," Moore told the Associated Press during a phone interview from New York.

The $6 million film has become a sensation that collected $117.3 million at the box office in the United States this summer, despite an early roadblock when Walt Disney banned its Miramax Films division from distributing the politically controversial film.

In the midst of the presidential campaign, Moore's announcement is a strategic move for his Oscar campaign. Documentaries and animated films have their own categories. But, the conventional wisdom in Hollywood is that those niche awards can limit a film's appeal in the overall best picture class.

Moore said he and his producing partner, Harvey Weinstein, agreed that "Fahrenheit 9/11" would stand a better chance if they focused solely on the top Oscar.

He also said he wanted to be "supportive of my teammates in nonfiction film."

Documentaries

So many documentaries—such as the fast-food satire "Super Size Me," and the sober look at Arab television news in "Control Room"—have made the rounds in theaters recently that Moore, who won the best documentary Oscar for "Bowling for Columbine," said he wanted to give others a chance at the honor.

"It's not that I want to be disrespectful and say I don't ever want to win a documentary Oscar again," Moore said. "This just seems like the right thing to do. I don't want to take away from the other nominees, and the attention that they richly deserve."

Moore also hinted in a recent interview in Rolling Stone that he would like "Fahrenheit 9/11" to be shown on television at some point before the presidential election, to widen the potential audience.

Rules

According to the rules of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, playing on television would invalidate the film's eligibility in the documentary category, but not for best picture. Still, with the movie coming out on DVD on Oct. 5, it's not clear whether the television deal would happen.

Regardless of who wins the election, however, Moore said the movie's presence at the Academy Awards in February will provide another forum for Americans to think about its message.

"The issues in the film—terrorism, the war on terrorism, the Iraq war—will be with us five months from now, sadly," Moore said. "The issues that the film raises will be no less relevant in the coming year." *AP*

Marni Nixon, dubber to the singing stars

By Behn Cervantes

HOLLYWOOD is synonymous with make-believe. What you get ain't what is, or at least not necessarily so. So, when a macho star jumps off a four-story building, it is most certainly a double. If the beautiful damsel in trouble all of a sudden defeats a dozen villains with her karate skills, you can bet your last deflated peso that it's really her karate double.

In Hollywood, stars now even use body doubles for those who don't have Coca-Cola curves, limb doubles for those who don't have legs like, say, Marlene Dietrich, Betty Grable, Linda Darnell, Ann Miller, Cyd Charisse or Angie Dickinson.

Fabulous musicals

Hollywood too, is known for its fabulous musicals, where beautiful actresses burst into song, either the blues or a number worthy of a Jeanette McDonald, Deanna Durbin or Kathryn Grayson. Rita Hayworth, Ava Gardner, Cyd Charisse have on more than one auspicious screen occassion sung sultry blues to an impressed audience.

Well, guess what, when la Rita was "Bewitched, Bothered and Bewildered" with Frank Sinatra as Pal Joey, she was not singing that song herself, someone else was. In fact, it was the same voice that dubbed for the beautiful Ava and the lissome Cyd when they rendered equally sexy numbers.

Ava had a good voice and even Lena Horne understood beautiful Ava's disappointment when her singing voice was dubbed for those fabulous songs like "Bill" and "My Man" in "Show Boat." Her renditions nevertheless remain in the soundtrack of the movie.

Her voice likewise dubbed for "One Touch of Venus," where she sexily sang "Speak Low" as the Grecian Goddess of Beauty. But we hear her real voice in "Mogambo," where she renders "Comin' Thru The Rye," given an erotic musical twist.

MGM prima ballerina Cyd Charisse was dubbed in all her musicals, no matter that she was paired with Gene Kelly in "Brigadoon" or Fred Astaire in "Bandwagon." Hollywood's premier danseurs, however were not dubbed, despite the fact that their voices gave Sinatra no sleepless nights.

Happily married

Charisse was, by the way, happily married to Tony Martin, one of Hollywood's most prominent baritones, for which reason the audience thought she was vocally gifted, too.

No one complained much about stars not doing their own singing until 1964, when Julie Andrews had become a Hollywood star because of her musical creation of Eliza Doolittle in the successful adaptation of "My Fair Lady." She was Broadway's undisputed singing sensation when she reprised her success with Guinevere in "Camelot."

Therefore, when the film version was made, she was disappointed that Audrey Hepburn was cast in the coveted role. More painful was the fact that Audrey's singing would be dubbed by Marni. —Marni who?

Marni Nixon became a recognizable name to lovers of entertainment trivia when the soprano became the singing voice of many a Hollywood star. She was the singing voice of Deborah Kerr in "The King and I" and in "An Affair To Remember."

The singer reveals in an interview that she studied the roles well to give the songs the dramatic intensity infused by the acting interpreter. In the case of Deborah Kerr, she also had to learn her accent and acting style.

On the other hand, she says that the conscientious Kerr studied *her* singing, so she knew when to lift her head up, as Nixon did as she hit the high notes.

Even if Marni remained anonymous to the screen audience, she was well-known among Hollywood producers, who wanted their actresses to sing as well as they looked. Natalie Wood was very disappointed, however, to find out that, despite producers' assurance that her voice would be used, Nixon had already been contracted to interpret Leonard Berstein's "West Side Story" arias for her character, Maria.

Belter

Even Ann Blyth, who had sung with operatic Mario Lanza in "The Great Caruso" and rendered operetta classics in "The Student Prince" and "Rosemarie," was dubbed by belter Gogi Grant when she sang in "The Helen Morgan Story."

For a long time, Marni received no credits or album royalties, until the late composer Leonard Berstein ceded a percentage of his royalties for "West Side Story" to Nixon, the musical voice of his immortal Maria. That gallant and generous deed set the precedent, so Nixon is now all over the CDs and DVDs of those musicals.

Memorable camping trip

WORD OF MOUTH

Sandy Daza

BRIDAL FALLS, British Columbia, Canada—On the first week of September, we joined four other families on a camping trip to Bridal Falls, about an hour and a half from Vancouver. The camping ground rests at the foot of a mountain with an exceptional view. Many of us were scared about the frequent bear sightings, but it was part of the adventure.

Barbecue

At the campsite, I noticed that the most popular dish campers dined on was barbecue.

Ours was different. We broke down the cooking into three parts: One family would handle breakfast, two would handle lunch and dinner on Saturday, and another two would handle the Sunday meals.

For our first breakfast, we had fried spam with broiled pandesal and fried or scrambled eggs. Our lunch had only one viand, beef steak with piping hot rice. Super!

It was interesting to note that the kids ate so much more on the trip with all the playing they were doing.

For dinner, we had pork *sinigang na* spareribs topped with spinach, and marinated and broiled pork *liempo* with a spicy hot and sour dip. From the description alone, you know how much I ate!

Recipe

The next day, we started with *tapa*, fried eggs and hot rice. Our *tapa* was homemade by Gigi Villareal. I just had to get her recipe!

Our lunch was *tostadong liempo* and "meat-falling" chicken *abobo*. It too was a hit.

That evening, Emy Orendain made a Korean beef stew while I had pork with oyster sauce. We all ate like crazy and everyone promised to go on a diet the coming week.

In between meals, we had *chichacorn*, salt and vinegar chips, sour seedless *champoy* and anything edible.

Evenings featured a bonfire where the kids roasted marshmallows and hotdogs. The melted mallows were put in a cracker sandwich with Nutella—the kids just loved them!

Happy eating!

Leprozo tops 'Rice Is Life' photo contest

STREET SMART

Mandy Navasero

THE ASIA Rice Foundation announces the winners of the "Rice Is Life" photo contest.

Over 500 pictures were submitted, and 31 prints entered the finals. Three winners were selected by the judges: Prof. Emmanuel Torres (chair), Jullie Yap Daza, Kara Magsanoc-Alikpala, this writer, Ram Cabrera and Ed Soler.

Finalists

The winners are Dave C. Leprozo Jr., first prize (P25, 000), for "Harvesting Rice in Sadanga, Mt. Province;" Revoli S. Cortez, second prize (P15,000), for "Eating Time of Scavengers;" Reynaldo C. Mondez, third prize for "Magtanim Ay Di Biro" and finalists Edwin Bacasmas, Manolo P. Barzabal, Renato L. Bondoc, Samuel P. de Leon, Tina Marie C. De Leon, Alexis dela Vega, Lorenzo Fernandez, Val Handumon, Jose Russell V. Herrera, Art R. Layno, Harley F. Palangchao, Glenn G. Peralta, Ceasar M. Perante, Patricio Roel A. Pira, Marie Therese J. Robles, Manuel P. Rosario, Noel Salcedo, Kym A. Sanchez, Bobby Timonera, James T. Trimanez and Cicero Peter S. Villanueva.

All 31 photographs will be exhibited until Sept. 26 at the Art Pavillion-Galerie Astra, (LRI Business Plaza, 210 Nicanor Garcia st., Bel- Air II Makati City). Call 896-3208.

Contact Mandy Navasero for Special Projects at 899-1767, 896-3208, 0916-706-0130;

E-mail: mandynavasero@photopro.com.ph

"HARVESTING Rice in Sadanga, Mt. Province" by Leprozo.

"MAGTANIM Ay Di Biro" by Reynaldo C. Mondez.

"EATING Time of Scavengers" by Revoli S. Cortez.

'Healthy' TV for youngsters in China

BEIJING—China's 367 million children and adolescents can look forward to "healthier" TV programming as the government steps up a campaign to foster morality among young people.

Each provincial-level TV station has been told to prepare a special channel for kids featuring cartoons and other shows deemed suitable for the youth, the Xinhua news agency reported.

Programs, especially foreign ones, with "bloody, violent, homicidal and horror scenes and content" are to soon to be a thing of the past, the agency said, citing the national TV and film regulator.

Requirement

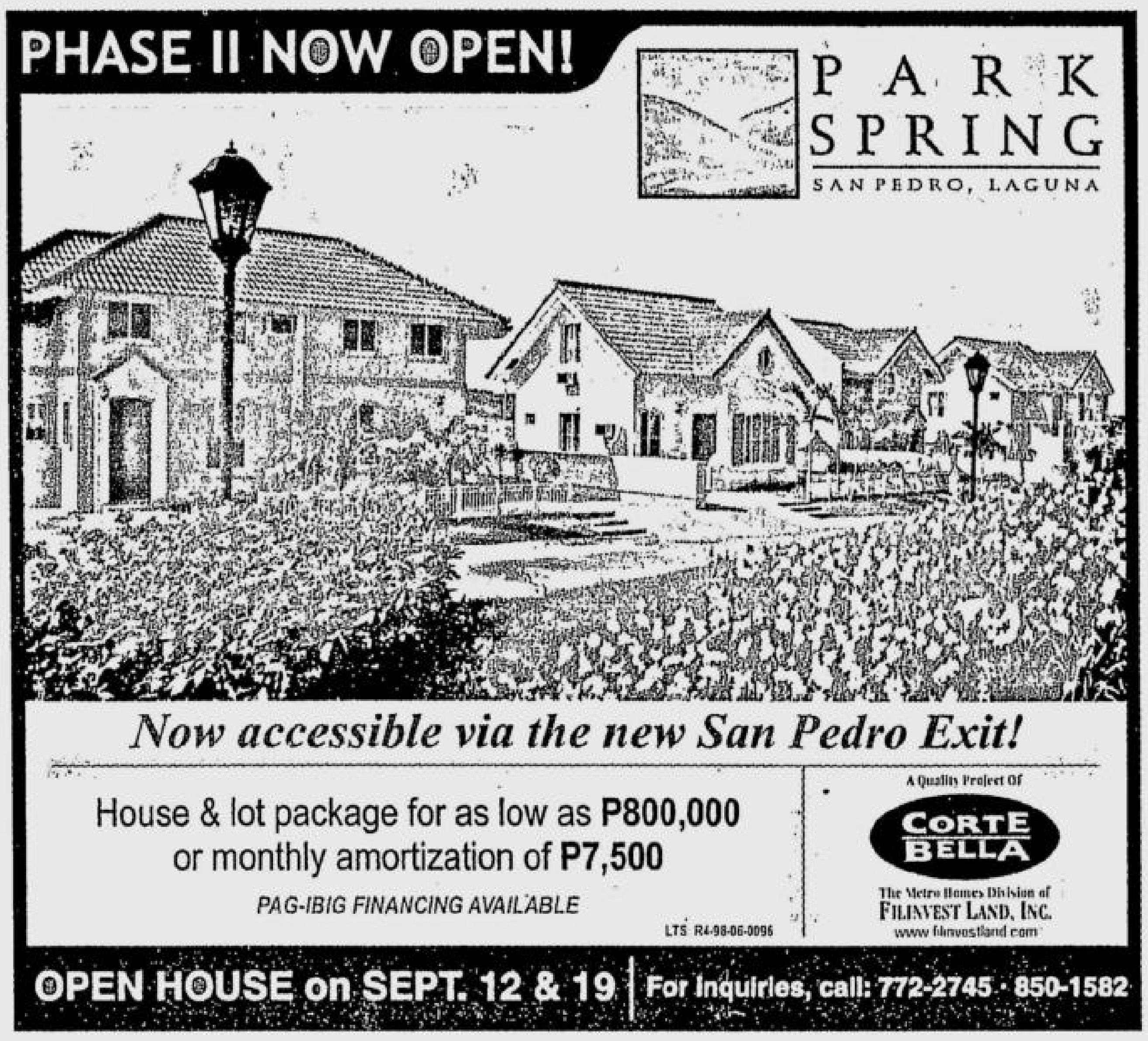
"Strengthening and improving the ideological and ethical development of minors constitutes an urgent requirement for building a well-off society," Xinhua said.

Working with the young is vital to "the overall quality of the Chinese people and the future of the country," it said, citing a spokesman of the Central Commission for Guiding Ethical and Cultural Progress.

Order

The order to the TV stations comes amid a series of statements from the central government suggesting that raising the ethical standards of the young is moving up the government's list of priorities.

President Hu Jintao, who was previously in charge of youth affairs for the Communist Party, earlier this month called on the whole nation to educate the youth in "ethics and ideology." *AFP*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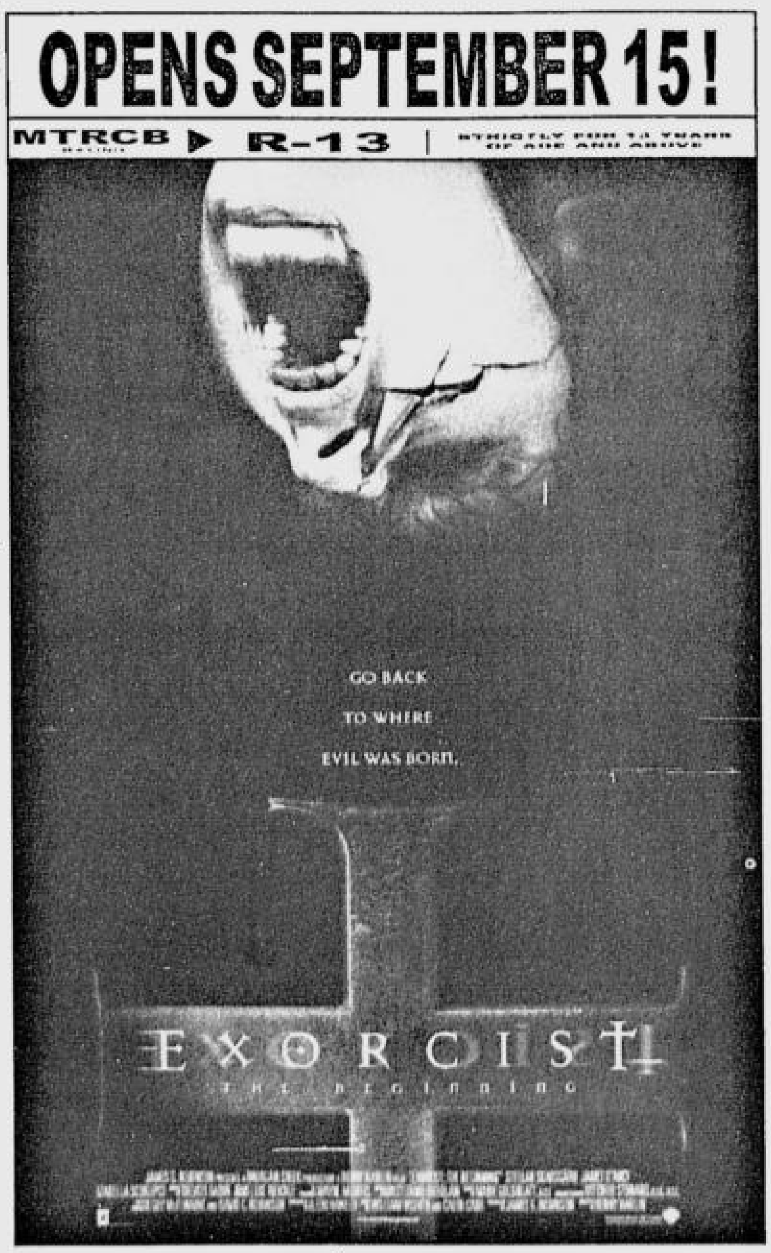
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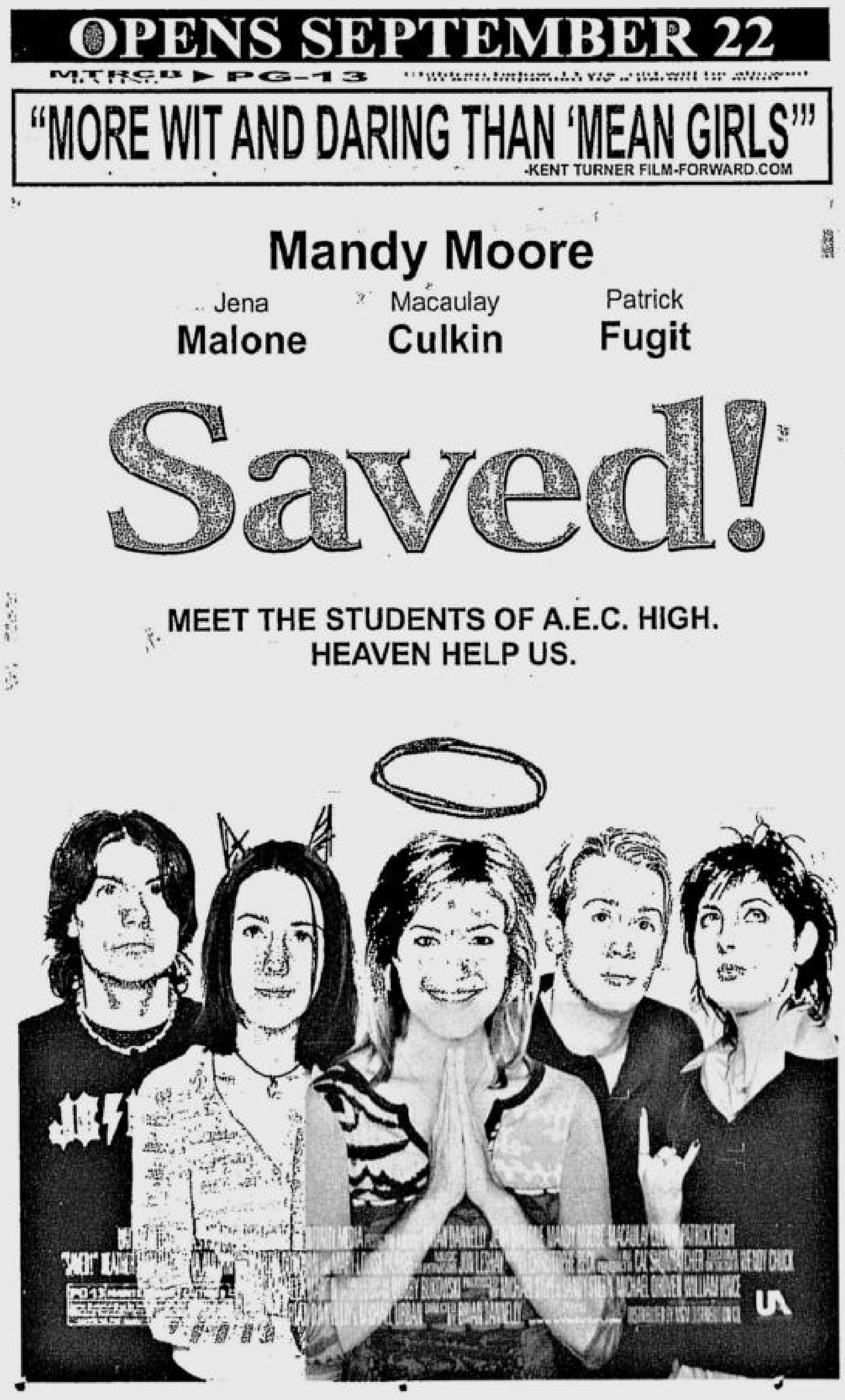
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Gov't scraps debt-equity swap with Maynilad

By Christine A. Gaylican

DUE to its ballooning budget deficit, the national government has scuttled its plan for a debt-for-equity swap arrangement with Maynilad Water Services Inc. and is now demanding the payment of the P15 billion owed by the utility over the next six years.

Under the new rehabilitation plan filed with the Regional Trial Court Branch 90 yesterday, the revised plan indicated that the performance bond worth $120 million would now have to be paid to the government-led Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System.

"We have just taken into consideration the Supreme Court ruling and in the new rehabilitation plan agreed upon by MWSS and the Department of Finance and the shareholders of Maynilad, there would now be a full payment to MWSS of all liabilities in the next six years," former Justice undersecretary Manuel Teehankee said in an interview.

He added that other than the $120 million (about P6.7 billion at current exchange rate) that could be obtained through the bond, some P9 billion in various obligations would also have to be paid to the government.

However, Teehankee said there was still be a possibility of a government takeover of the west concession area once Benpres Holdings Corp.—the largest shareholder in Maynilad—exits and writes off all its stake in the company.

"The MWSS will oversee the operations of the west zone until a replacement operator would take over," Teehankee, the chief government negotiator, said.

Benpres has about $35 million in investments in Maynilad that it will have to write off if it decides to abandon the company.

The MWSS is on top of Maynilad's list of creditors. The company's other creditors with some P8 billion in exposure are Credit Agricole, Indosuez Merchant Bank Asia Ltd., Citibank NA, Barclays Bank PLC and BNP Paribas, Equitable PCI-Bank, Rizal Commercial Banking Corp. and the state-owned Development Bank of the Philippines.

Under the new plan, the banks were again offered debt-to-equity conversions in Maynilad. They were given another 10 days by the court to submit their comments on the rehabilitation plan as ordered by Regional Trial Court Judge Reynaldo Daway has ordered

The MWSS, Teehankee noted, has to assure that the services to Maynilad's more than a million customers in the west side of Manila would not be disrupted.

INDICATORS

CURRENCIES

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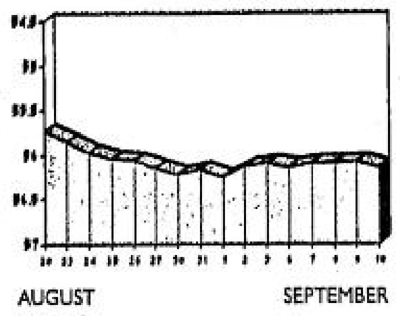

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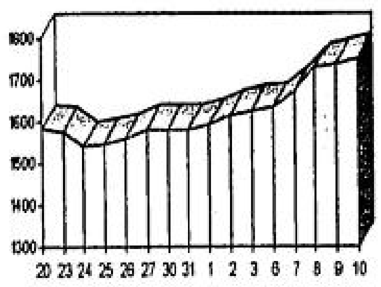
STOCK MARKET

Shares hit 53-month high

SHARE prices closed up 0.67 percent yesterday, reaching a new 53-month high, on sustained buying of selected blue chips, dealers said.

They noted, however, that some investors have started to pocket gains after the market's recent rally, with the main index finishing off its intraday high.



(See stock market report on Page B2)

The Philippine Stock Exchange composite index gained 11.68 points to 1,751.60 after trading between 1,728.96 and 1,753.34.

It was the index's highest close since April 11, 2000, when it settled at 1,757.45.

Volume fell to 2.6 billion shares worth P1.08 billion from 4.03 billion shares worth P1.62 billion on Thursday.

Losers beat gainers 48 to 39, with 38 stocks unchanged. *AFP*

LandBank remits ₱600M in dividends to gov't

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE STATE-OWNED Land Bank of the Philippines has contributed ₱600 million to the cash-strapped government in the form of cash dividends from its 2003 net profit.

The country's third biggest bank yesterday announced that it had remitted the cash dividends to Malacañang during the Gawad PITAK awarding ceremonies honoring its outstanding cooperatives.

LandBank chair Luis Lorenzo Jr. and president Gary Teves said the remittance was in line with Republic Act No. 7656 enacted in 1994, wherein all government-owned and -controlled corporations were required to contribute cash dividends.

Malacañang, which recently admitted it was in a fiscal crisis, earlier said it would like to generate more cash dividends from profitable GOCCs to boost revenue.

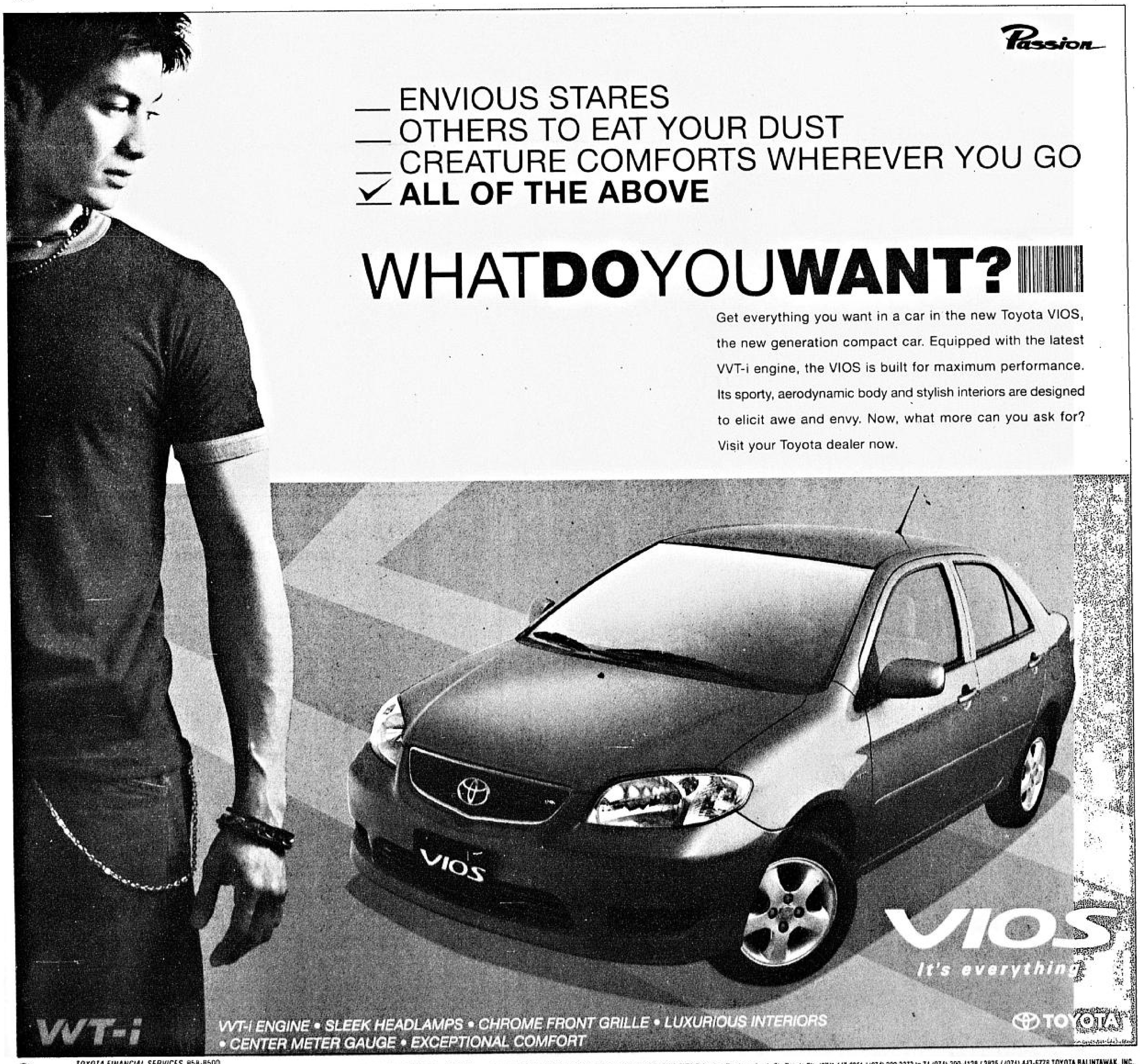
The cash dividend remitted to the government represented 30 percent of LandBank's P2-billion net income in 2003.

For the nine-year period 1994-2003, the bank has now declared total dividends of P12.14 billion to the national government.

For its part, the bank uses its retained earnings from commercial banking operations to sustain its countryside development activities, such as extending credit assistance to priority sectors, including farmers and fisherfolk, small and medium enterprises and microenterprises, livelihood projects, agribusiness, agri-infrastructure, agri-related projects and environment-related projects.

Landbank decided to return to its original mandate of providing credit to the agri-agra sector in 2000 when lending to priority sectors had dwindled to 34 percent of the bank's total loan portfolio.

Under Teves' management, the bank increased the share of priority sectors to 60 percent of the total loan portfolio in less than four years.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TOYOTA FINANCIAL SERVICES 858-8500
TOYOTA ALABANG, INC. Alabang-Zapote Rd. cor. Concha Cruz Drive 800-0801 to 32 / 802-1901 TOYOTA BACOLOD CITY Gardenville Subdivision, Araneta St. Bacolod City (034) 444-1811 to 13 TOYOTA BAGUIO CITY, Bokawkan Road cor. Aguila St., Baguio City (074) 447-0851 / (074) 300-3273 to 74 (074) 300-4126 / 3825 / (074) 443-6778 TOYOTA BALINTAWAK, INC., EDSA cor. Vicente Ang & Gen. Evangelista Sts. Kalookan City 366-8901 to 06 / 364-1547 to 50 / 364-4071 to 75 TOYOTA BALINTAWAK-NORTH 1010 Epifanio De Los Santos Ave. (EDSA), Quezon City 927-7215 / 17 / 30 / 39 927-7242 / 44 / 48 / 52 / 927-7257 / 62 / 65 / 927-7268 · 69 TOYOTA BATANGAS CITY, INC. Diversion Road, Barangay Balagtas, Batangas City (043) 723-7386 / (043) 723-7639 TOYOTA CABANATUAN CITY, INC. Km. 118 Maharlika Highway, Daang Sarile, Cabanatuan City (044) 463 8481 to 87 TOYOTA CAGAYAN DE ORO, INC. Km. 3 National Highway, Kauswagan, Cagayan de Oro City (08822) 735-770 / 791 / 846 · (088) 858-9994 / (088) 858 7770 (08822) 737 480 TOYOTA CEBU CITY, INC. 34 M.J. Cuenco St., Cebu City (032) 253-1161 TOYOTA CEBU MANDAUE Tabok, Mandaue City (032) 345-8670 TOYOTA COMMONWEALTH Commonwealth Ave., Quezon City 952-1021 to 27 TOYOTA CUBAO, INC. 926 Aurora Blvd. Cubao, Quezon City 911 0651 to 63 TOYOTA DAGUPAN CITY, INC. Diversion Road, Barangay San Miguel, Calasiao, Pangasinan (075) 517-7026 to 28 (075) 522-6771 / 6734 / 4773 TOYOTA DASMARIÑAS CAVITE, Salitran II, Aguinaldo Highway, Dasmariñas, Cavite (046) 850-2597 / (02) 529-8115 (trunk line) TOYOTA DAVAO CITY, INC. Km. 6 Lanang, Davao City (082) 234-0998 · (082) 234-2994 / (082) 234-8640 TOYOTA ILOILO CITY, INC. Gran Plains Subd., Jaro, Iloilo City (033) 320-6115 to 19 TOYOTA MAKATI INC., Ayala cor. Metropolitan Avenues, Makati City 897 3333 TOYOTA MANILA BAY CORP. Roxas Boulevard cor. EDSA Extension, Pasay City 832-3408 to 10 / 832-3432 to 34 / 832-3384 · 832 3437 TOYOTA MARIKINA SERVICE STATION Brgy. Sto. Niño Sumulong Highway cor. Toyota Ave., Marikina City 682-9701 to 03 TOYOTA OTIS, INC. 1770 Paz M. Guazon St., Paco, Manila 564-1611 [illegible] TOYOTA PASONG TAMO, INC. 2292 Pasong Tamo Extension, Makati City 893 8084 TOYOTA QUEZON AVENUE, INC. 728 Quezon Avenue, Quezon City 712-5001 to 06 TOYOTA SHAW, INC. 309 Shaw Blvd. Mandaluyong City 532-4132 / 532-8428 / 534-3009 (telefax) TOYOTA SHAW-ORTIGAS, 124 E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave. Bo. Ugong, Pasig City 671-9854 to 04 / 671-0460

Breasted interests

BREAKTIME

Conrado R. Banal III

ONLY two days after Gloriaetta wiped out all "vested interests" in this country of 11 million jobless—a country that is also facing a fiscal crisis, not to mention another power crisis—she flew to Brunei, using the private jet of a local businessman.

As the volunteer spokesperson of those who dream of owning their own private jets someday, I say that if only we, all of us taxpayers, sacrifice a little and donate our food money to this cute administration, Gloriaetta should be able to afford a jet of her own.

The President of the Republic, as far as the more than 40 million poor in this country are concerned, should not have to use somebody else's private jet, since she could become beholden to whoever owned the expensive luxury aircraft.

Still, nobody can accuse Gloriaetta of accepting a little favor from the jet owner, in return for heaven knows what. I suppose that the local businessman no longer has "vested interests." Gloriaetta already wiped them all out two days ago.

* * *

WHEN she addressed the foreign press last Tuesday, Gloriaetta said she would take on whatever vested interests that would stand in the way of her long overdue reforms.

These were strong fighting words from somebody who was known to say one thing and then do another.

But over the past four years, a pattern has been set by this cute administration in dealing with hot issues involving public officials and our tax money.

If they could take care of the issue in media, whatever the problem surrounding the issue should already be deemed as ... well, "solved."

For instance, everything is quiet now on the fantastically overpriced President Diosdado Macapagal Avenue. Ergo, the problem is solved.

* * *

AND so I said that Gloriaetta single-handedly solved the unmitigated problem of "vested interests" in our country, merely by talking about it strongly in media.

We must not think frightening thoughts about her use of the private jet. Besides, according to the chief Palace spokesperson, the jet was "available on a rental basis."

But did this cute administration rent the jet or not? For if you are the owner of the jet which is, ahh, "available on a rental basis," will you still send the bill to Gloriaetta?

The INQUIRER reported that the owner of the jet is none other than businessman Jose "Pepito" Alvarez.

Word has been going around that Alvarez is only brokering an amicable settlement between this cute administration and Piatco over the Naia Terminal 3 case.

* * *

ACCORDING to my info, Alvarez bought out the Piatco interest of one of the Cheng groups, which bagged the Naia 3 BOT contract during the time of Kuya Eddie.

If Alvarez could swing the amicable settlement, he should earn a little pocket money, amounting to a couple of hundreds of millions of pesos.

The Naia 3 has become an international issue. Abroad, the German Fraport has sued the Philippine government before the ICSID (the International Center for the Settlement of Investment Disputes). In this case, Fraport claimed that it already spent about $450 million for Naia 3.

The Japanese contractor of Piatco for the project, the giant Takenaka, of course, received only $280 million. Where did the difference go?

* * *

EARLY this year, the German authorities raided the offices of Fraport. They seized some documents which tended to show the trail of corruption in the Naia 3 contract.

The raid was led by Wolfgang Schaupensteiner, well-known corruption fighter in Germany. Obviously, he was after some evidence of bribery done by Fraport itself.

In a report, the German brokering firm MM Warburg also noted that Fraport posted in its books some 200 million euros in consultancy fees for the Naia 3 project.

MM Warburg used an interesting word to describe the fees. It described the fees as "nebulous," meaning, Fraport has given the, er, "fees" to "unspecified parties."

The discovery of those "fees," according to MM Warburg, could hurt Fraport in its suits against the Philippine government.

* * *

ADDING to the difficulty of an "amicable settlement" over the Naia 3 project is the refusal of Takenaka to issue a guarantee, according to my source in the government.

The Japanese contractor has expressed reservation on the so-called "Schedule 7," which was part of the Naia 3 construction plan.

In that mysterious "Schedule 7," Takenaka supposedly sub-contracted work and supplies to a local group which had connections with this cute administration.

Now, if the government decides to pay for the work done so far by Piatco and Fraport in Naia 3, it must ascertain at least that the building is safe.

Takenaka does not want to issue the guarantee of safety, despite its being the sole contractor for the project. Big problem!

* * *

ASIDE from a financial audit of

BREAKTIME/ B3

CURRENCIES

September 10, 2004 Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Dollar Equivalent	Peso Equivalent
United States	Dollar	0.819874	1.000000	56.0590
Japan	Yen	0.007473	0.009115	0.5110
United Kingdom	Pound	1.462327	1.783600	99.9868
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.105127	0.128223	7.1881
Switzerland	Franc	0.649045	0.791640	44.3785
Canada	Dollar	0.636498	0.776337	43.5207
Singapore	Dollar	0.482506	0.588512	32.9914
Australia	Dollar	0.564496	0.688516	38.5975
Bahrain	Dinar	2.174789	2.652590	148.7015
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.218628	0.266660	14.9487
Brunei	Dollar	0.481090	0.586786	32.8946
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000089	0.000108	0.0061
Thailand	Baht	0.019718	0.024050	1.3482
UAE	Dirham	0.223222	0.272264	15.2628
Euro	Euro	1.000000	1.219700	68.3752
Argentina	Peso	0.273064	0.333056	18.6708
Brazil	Real	0.282228	0.344234	19.2974
Denmark	Kroner	0.134500	0.164050	9.1965
India	Rupee	0.017742	0.021640	1.2131
Malaysia	Ringgit	0.215785	0.263193	14.7543
Mexico	New Peso	0.070794	0.086348	4.8406
New Zealand	Dollar	0.533320	0.650491	36.4659
Norway	Kroner	0.120678	0.147191	8.2514
Pakistan	Rupee	0.013967	0.017036	0.9550
South Africa	Rand	0.123036	0.150067	8.4126
Korea	Won	0.000716	0.000873	0.0489
Sweden	Kroner	0.109823	0.133951	7.5092
Syria	Pound	0.015907	0.019402	1.0877
Taiwan	Nt Dollar	0.024271	0.029603	1.6595
Venezuela	Bolivar	0.000428	0.000522	0.0293

DISCLOSURES

APC Group Inc. will hold its annual stockholders' meeting on Oct. 15, 2 p.m. at the Sta. Maria Room, 5/F of Discovery Suites, Pasig City. Stockholders of record as of Sept. 21 will be entitled to notice of and to vote at the meeting.

* * *

A. SORIANO Corp.'s 150,000 shares were bought by its wholly owned subsidiary, Anscor Consolidated Corp.

* * *

FAIRMONT Holdings Inc. reset for next year its annual stockholders' meeting originally scheduled on the last Tuesday of October under its by-laws.

* * *

POLAR Mines and Development Corp. will hold its annual stockholders' meeting on Sept. 29, 10:30 a.m. at the Italia Country Club, Las Piñas City. Stockholders of record as of Aug. 30 are entitled to notice of and to vote at the meeting.

* * *

PRIME Gaming Philippines Inc. will hold its annual stockholders' meeting on Oct. 28, 11 a.m. at the Acacia Function Room of Manila Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Makati City. Stockholders of record as of Sept. 28 will be entitled to notice of and to vote at the meeting.

* * *

ELECTED members of **Balabac Resources and Holdings Co. Inc.'s** nomination committee were Wilson Young, Antonio Sevilla and Regnar Rivera.

* * *

TRANS-ASIA Oil and Energy Development Corp. disclosed it will receive over P43 million in dividends following Bacnotan Consolidated Industries Inc.'s cash dividend declaration of P9 per share.

* * *

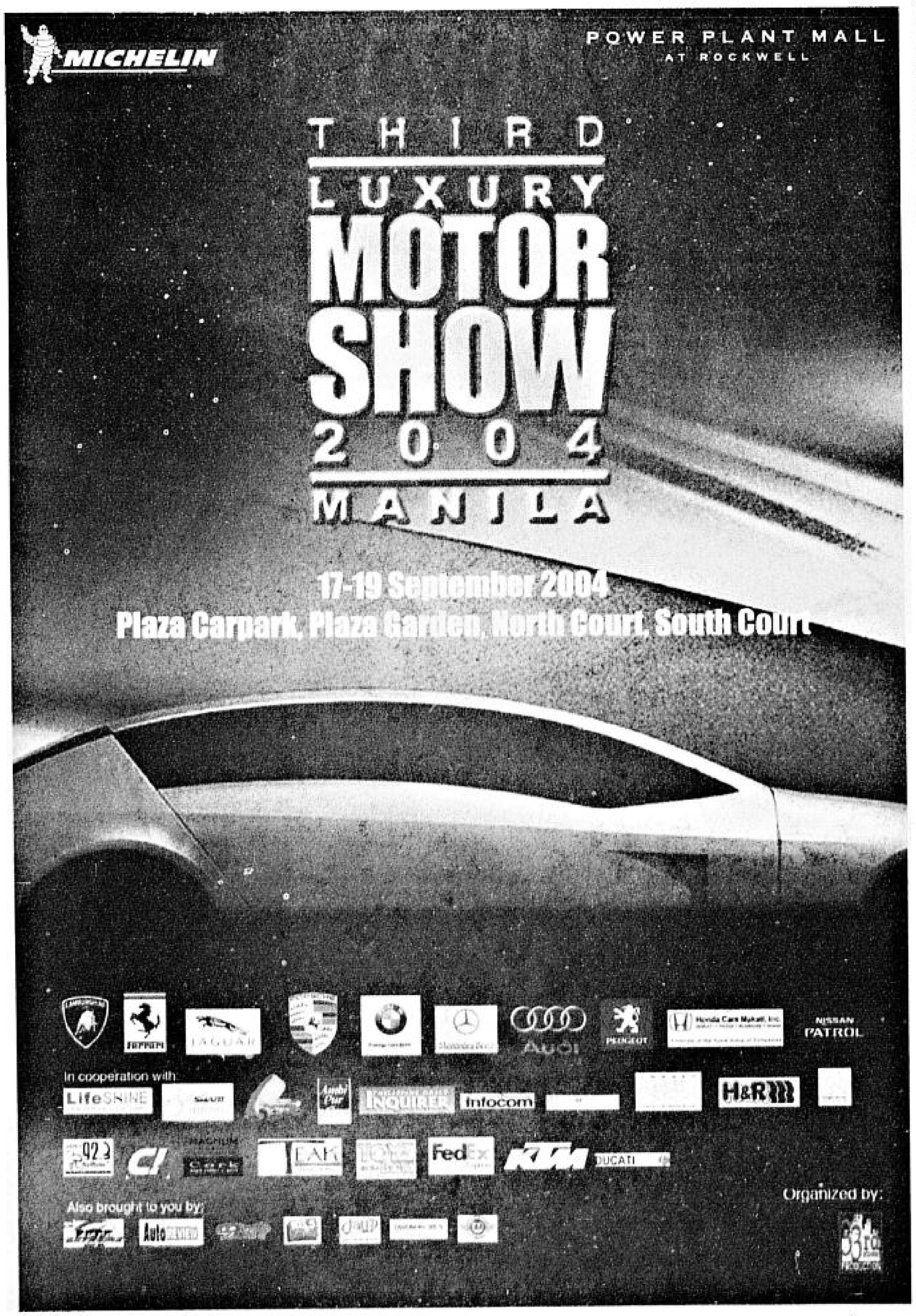
ELECTED members of **Baguio Gold Holdings Corp.'s** nomination committee were Regnar Rivera, Wilson Young and Sylvia Lim.

Compiled by Maricar D. Tolosa, PDI Research

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of September 10, 2004)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Banco de Oro Univ. Bank	17.5	17.5	17.5	17.5	165,900
Bank of the Phil. Islands	46	46.5	45.5	46.5	1,137,600
China Banking Corp.	535	535	535	535	360
Citystate Savings Bank	16.25	16.25	16.25	16.25	400
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	42	42	41.5	42	15,700
Export and Ind. Bank Inc.	0.5	0.5	0.49	0.5	410,000
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	27.5	28.5	27.5	28	873,600
Philippine National Bank	23.25	23.25	23	23.25	16,700
Rizal Comm. Banking Corp.	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	32,400
Security Bank Corp.	23.25	23.25	23	23	177,100
FINANCIAL SERVICES					
Bankard Inc.	1.02	1.02	1	1	88,000
Filipino Fund Inc.	3	3	3	3	3,000
Manulife Financial Corp.	2330	2330	2330	2330	8,300
Phil. Stock Exchange Inc.	115	115	115	115	20
Sun Life Financial Inc.	1545	1550	1545	1550	13,530
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL					
COMMUNICATION					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	21.5	21.5	21.5	21.5	2,400
Digital Telecom Phils. Inc.	0.7	0.7	0.68	0.69	1,750,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	1010	1045	1000	1035	216,650
Ipeople Inc.	1.62	1.62	1.6	1.6	59,000
ISM Communications Corp.	0.037	0.037	0.036	0.037	7,200,000
Liberty Telecoms Holdings	0.225	0.225	0.225	0.225	100,000
Pilipino Tel. Corp.	2.7	2.8	2.7	2.8	5,550,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	1400	1425	1400	1420	76,820
Ivantage Corp.	0.66	0.67	0.66	0.67	2,460,000
Philweb Corp.	0.012	0.012	0.011	0.012	7,100,000
POWER & ENERGY					
Manila Electric Co. A	15.75	16	15.75	16	121,000
Manila Electric Co. B	24.5	24.75	24.5	24.75	1,563,200
Petron Corp.	2.8	2.85	2.8	2.85	1,318,000
Trans-Asia Oil and Energy	1.14	1.14	1.1	1.14	215,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Asian Terminals Inc.	1.44	1.5	1.44	1.46	1,083,000
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	4.7	4.7	4.6	4.6	99,000
Lorenzo Shipping Corp.	0.59	0.6	0.59	0.6	50,000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS					
Engineering Equip. Inc.	0.38	0.38	0.38	0.38	10,000
Republic Cement Corp.	0.52	0.52	0.52	0.52	30,000
Union Cement Corp.	2.7	2.7	2.4	2.46	5,993,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Alaska Milk Corp.	2.9	2.95	2.9	2.95	16,000
Ginebra San Miguel Inc.	30	30	30	30	12,000
Jollibee Foods Corp.	26	26	25.5	25.5	108,800
RFM Corp.	0.75	0.78	0.75	0.75	180,000
San Miguel Corp. A	58	58.5	58	58.5	16,900
San Miguel Corp. B	70	70	69.5	69.5	45,100
Universal Robina Corp.	8.2	8.6	8.2	8.6	153,000
Vitarich Corp.	0.3	0.3	0.29	0.3	1,150,000
HOLDING FIRMS					
Atok-Big Wedge Co. Inc.	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	1,000
Abacus Con Res & Hdg A	0.005	0.005	0.005	0.005	57,000,000
Atok-Big Wedge. Inc. B	5	5	5	5	1,000
Ayala Corp.	6.2	6.4	6.2	6.4	27,207,000
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.4	300,000
Ajo.Net Holdings Inc.	0.026	0.033	0.026	0.033	96,300,000
A. Soriano Corp.	1.48	1.48	1.46	1.46	67,000
APC Group Inc.	0.095	0.095	0.095	0.095	100,000
Alcorn Gold Res. Corp.	0.007	0.0075	0.007	0.007	124,000,000
Anglo Phil Holdings Corp.	0.15	0.17	0.15	0.17	310,000
ATN Holdings Inc.	1.56	1.56	1.56	1.56	20,000
Bacnotan Cons Indus Inc.	15.5	15.5	15.5	15.5	8,200
Benpres Holdings Corp.	0.6	0.6	0.58	0.6	10,380,000
Basic Consolidated Inc.	0.135	0.135	0.135	0.135	770,000
Crown Equities Inc.	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	3,480,000
Southeast Asian Cement	0.17	0.185	0.165	0.175	17,730,000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	2.1	2.16	2.1	2.16	4,994,000
Ever-Gotesco Resources	0.033	0.035	0.033	0.035	7,000,000
Fil-Estate Corp.	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	50,000
First Phil Hldgs Corp.	27.5	28	27	28	1,189,800
Forum Pacific Inc.	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	160,000
Global Equities Inc.	0.075	0.0825	0.075	0.0825	31,400,000
Ionics Inc.	1.84	1.88	1.84	1.88	525,000
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	1.82	1.82	1.78	1.78	222,000
Macroasia Corp.	1.32	1.42	1.32	1.4	445,000
Marsteel Cons. Inc. B	0.013	0.013	0.013	0.013	200,000
Megaworld Corp.	1.24	1.24	1.24	1.24	553,000
Magnum Holdings Inc.	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	10,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.55	0.58	0.54	0.58	67,550,000
Prime Orion Phils. Inc.	0.155	0.165	0.15	0.165	8,720,000
Prime Media Holdings Inc.	1.12	1.12	1.12	1.12	100,000
East Asia Power Res. Corp.	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	500,000
Solid Group Inc.	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	200,000
Seafront Resources Corp.	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	60,000
Uniwide Holdings Inc.	0.16	0.185	0.16	0.185	16,370,000
Waterfront Phils. Inc.	0.21	0.21	0.2	0.2	5,500,000
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
Music Semiconductors Corp.	1.78	1.78	1.78	1.78	7,000
Mabuhay Vinyl Corp.	1.02	1.02	0.97	1.02	1,897,000
Picop Resources Inc.	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07	1,300,000
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICES					
Belle Corp.	0.73	0.74	0.72	0.73	3,180,000
Manila Jockey Club	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4	15,000
Premiere Ent. Prod. Inc.	0.33	0.34	0.33	0.34	440,000
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp (Pdr)	22	22	21.75	21.75	139,000
PLDT (10% Pref) Series O	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	700
PLDT (10% Pref.) Series U	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	1,700
PLDT (10% Pref) Series W	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	300
PLDT (10% Pref) Series X	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	100
PLDT 10% Pref Series Aa	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	3,600
PLDT 10% Pref Series Bb	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	1,300
OTHERS					
Centro Escolar University	6.2	6.3	6.2	6.3	20,000
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	6.1	6.3	6	6.3	20,531,000
Cebu Holdings Inc.	0.5	0.56	0.5	0.54	1,340,000
C&P Homes Inc.	0.39	0.41	0.38	0.4	49,430,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	150,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.35	0.36	0.34	0.36	21,800,000
Edsa Prop. Holdings Inc.	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	70,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	1.04	1.06	1.02	1.06	15,727,000
Gotesco Land, Inc.	0.095	0.095	0.095	0.095	800,000
Highlands Prime Inc.	2.16	2.16	2.16	2.16	50,000
Kuok Phil. Properties	0.23	0.245	0.22	0.245	11,270,000
City & Land Developers	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	12,000
Fil-Estate Land Inc.	0.43	0.45	0.43	0.45	410,000
Robinsons Land Corp.	2	2	2	2	69,000
SM Development Corp.	1	1.06	1	1.06	15,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	6.3	6.3	6.2	6.2	10,093,000
MINING					
Abra Mining & Industrial	0.006	0.006	0.006	0.006	18,000,000
Lepanto Cons Mng Co. A	0.225	0.225	0.215	0.22	1,880,000
Lepanto Cons Mng Co B	0.28	.0.28	0.27	0.27	1,280,000
Manila Mining Corp. A	0.014	0.014	0.014	0.014	70,500,000
Manila Mining Corp. B	0.017	0.017	0.016	0.017	165,000,000
Omico Corp.	0.006	0.007	0.006	0.007	1,552,000,000
Polar Mines & Dev't Corp.	0.033	0.034	0.033	0.034	20,500,000
Philex Mining Corp. A	0.39	0.39	0.39	0.39	520,000
Philex Mining Corp. B	0.43	0.43	0.43	0.43	230,000
United Paragon Mining Co.	0.115	0.115	0.115	0.115	70,000
OIL					
Imperial Res.	0.013	0.013	0.011	0.011	200,000
Interport Res.	0.004	0.004	0.004	0.004	14,000,000
Interport Res. B	0.004	0.004	0.004	0.004	3,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. A	0.0044	0.0044	0.0044	0.0044	36,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. B	0.0046	0.0046	0.0046	0.0046	20,000,000
Pacifica	0.012	0.013	0.012	0.013	37,100,000
Petroenergy Res. Corp.	2.85	2.85	2.8	2.8	124,000



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
DepED Complex, Meralco Ave., Pasig City

Invitation for Bids

ICB No. : DepED-2-2004-TX
IFB No. : SEMP2-SEDIP2-2004-TX

1. The Republic of the Philippines through the Department of Education (DepED) has received a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and Asian Development Bank (ADB). It is intended to apply part of the proceeds of this loan to eligible payments under the contracts for the Supply and Delivery of Makabayan Textbooks (TXs) and Teachers' Manuals (TMs) under SEMP2 and SEDIP.
2. The Department of Education (DepED) through the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the Supply and Delivery of Makabayan TXs and TMs in Edukasyong Pantahanan at Pangkabuhayan (EPP) grades 4-6 to public elementary school districts, and Music, Arts, Physical Education and Health (MAPEH) 1st – 4th year to secondary schools under SEMP2 and SEDIP, as follows

Item No.	Subject Grade/Year Level	Zone 1 Quantity in Copies TX	Zone 1 Quantity in Copies TM	Zone 2 Quantity in copies TX	Zone 2 Quantity in copies TM	Zone 3 Quantity in Copies TX	Zone 3 Quantity in Copies TM	Zone 4 Quantity in Copies TX	Zone 4 Quantity in Copies TM	Total Quantity in Copies TX	Total Quantity in Copies TM
	Elementary										
1	EPP 4	400,169	11,429	608,855	17,394	411,509	11,757	411,086	11,746	1,831,619	52,326
2	EPP 5	388,171	11,089	580,922	16,598	389,936	11,145	390,489	11,157	1,749,518	49,989
3	EPP 6	380,393	10,864	557,229	15,922	370,657	10,586	366,294	10,465	1,674,573	47,837
	High School										
4	MAPEH I	354,957	9,661	555,433	15,416	364,284	8,274	372,012	8,765	1,646,686	42,116
5	MAPEH II	342,010	9,382	530,052	14,765	333,696	7,705	333,750	7,990	1,539,508	39,842
6	MAPEH III	273,007	7,431	417,030	11,556	273,396	6,127	266,259	6,187	1,229,682	31,301
7	MAPEH IV	226,474	6,145	340,382	9,400	233,884	5,100	219,809	5,032	1,020,529	25,677

* Combined Quantity of SEMP2 and SEDIP

Estimated Printing and Delivery Completion Period: 150 days. Indicative Printing and Delivery Dates: March to July 2005.

3. The mode of procurement shall be through International Competitive Bidding (ICB). A bidder may opt to bid on any or all of the lots required. A margin of preference shall be granted to TXs and TMs manufactured in Purchaser's country for purposes of bid price comparison only.
4. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information or inspect the Bidding Documents from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. starting **September 22, 2004** at the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) Office, Ground Floor, Rizal I Building, DepED Complex, Pasig City, 1605 Philippines, Tel. Nos. (632) 636-6542/633-9342 or at Fax No. (632) 635-3762. Information is also available at **http://www.deped.gov.ph** or **www.procurementservice.org.**
5. A complete set of Bidding Documents in English may be purchased by interested eligible bidders upon submission of a written application to the address given in paragraph 4 and payment of a non-refundable fee in the amount of Php3,000.00 or US$55.00. The method of payment will be cash, cashier's or manager's check, or certified check. The Bidding Documents will be sent by mail. No liability will be accepted for loss or late delivery.
6. All bids shall be accompanied by a bid security of not less than 2.5% of the total bid amount, in Philippine peso or in any freely convertible currency of eligible countries and shall be delivered in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders on or before **10:00 a.m.** on **October 29, 2004** and will be publicly opened immediately thereafter at the Bulwagan ng Karunungan, Rizal I Building, DepED Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City, Philippines.
7. Prior to bid opening, a pre-bid conference shall be conducted on **October 8, 2004** at 10:00 a.m. at the same address indicated in paragraph 6.
8. The DepED reserves the right to accept and reject any or all bids and to annul the bidding process at any time prior to award of Contract(s) without incurring any liability to the affected bidders and to waive any minor informality or non-conformity in a bid which does not constitute a material deviation, provided such waiver will not prejudice or affect competitive ranking of any bid.

(Sgd.) **JUAN MIGUEL LUZ**
Undersecretary and Chairperson,
Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI – Sept. 4 & 11, 2004)

R-II Builders set to get back Smokey Mountain investments

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

R-II BUILDERS of businessman Reghis Romero II said it was poised to get back its investments in the reclamation and development of the Smokey Mountain dumpsite in Manila, a joint venture project with the National Housing Authority.

Melanie Siena-Lapore, head of corporate communications of R-II Builders, said in a statement that the firm initially provided P300 million in equity.

"The funds generated for the Smokey Mountain Development cannot be claimed by the government as government funds since the funds came from R-II Builders and the investors, not from the budgetary outlay of NHA," Siena-Lapore said. "In the process of construction and development, R-II Builders infused additional funding of P932 million, thus increasing its total equity to P1.2 billion."

She also said that Harbour Centre Port Terminal Inc. was established by R-II Holdings, a sister firm of R-II Builders.

"Private funds from R-II Holdings ... were invested in HCPTI to operate the port," the R-II official said as she denied government institutions bought 81 percent of Harbour's shares of stocks in exchange for a 10-hectare parcel of reclaimed property. "It is therefore a distortion to state that the port investment involves public funds."

R-II also said it had turned over to the NHA all the housing properties completed under the project.

"As far as the NHA ... is concerned, the NHA had already received its fair share under the joint venture agreement," she said. "But the developer, R-II Builders Inc., has not yet recovered its investment. It is but fair that the government should now pay the developer its duly validated accomplishments."

Former Solicitor General Frank Chavez recently filed a suit seeking to junk the R-II reclamation. The case is now before the Supreme Court.

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Measure to avert collapse of small banks sought

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE BANGKO Sentral ng Pilipinas will tap commercial banks to set up a red alert mechanism to avert bank runs which can cause the collapse of small banks, like First Savings Bank.

In an interview, BSP Deputy Governor Alberto Reyes said the reason why FSB suffered from a spate of heavy withdrawals was that its clearing bank—the commercial bank where it maintains its deposits and draws checking accounts against—had cut off its ties with First Savings without informing the BSP.

Reyes said the commercial bank apparently terminated FSB's clearing privileges last Sept. 6, allegedly due to the thrift bank's mishandling of its account. As such, about 96 checks issued by FSB to retail clients, mostly market vendors, bounced that same day.

"That precipitated the bank run," Reyes said.

The checks which bounced were worth only a total of P500,000, Reyes noted, mostly ranging between P1,000 to P3,000.

There were other small banks that had suffered the same fate two years ago, Reyes said, such as Prime Savings Bank.

He said the BSP had an informal agreement with commercial banks that no clearing functions would be terminated without informing the BSP, so that the government institution could extend assistance to the affected thrift bank if necessary.

"In the case of FSB, we were not informed," he said.

However, Reyes said FSB's commercial bank was not the one to blame because it would have been in trouble with its own clearing banks if it had handled delinquent accounts loosely.

Also, he said the BSP could not sanction the commercial bank because there was no formal agreement.

Reyes said commercial banks could thus be helpful in alerting the BSP of banks with cash flow problems.

He said the BSP would thus seek a written agreement with commercial banks to prevent the recurrence of such unfortunate events.

On Wednesday, the BSP's policy-making Monetary Board ordered the permanent closure of FSB, owned by the Yujuico family, and placed the cash-strapped bank under the receivership of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corp.

It was the first bank to be placed under the PDIC's receivership since Congress passed a new charter increasing the minimum deposit insurance coverage from P100,000 to P250,000.

Breaktime

From page B2

the project, which this cute administration has failed to do so far, the government also wanted to do an audit of civil works.

This administration only succeeded in getting the cooperation of nobody—not Takenaka, not Piatco, and certainly not the external auditors of both!

Moreover, according to an official report, if this cute administration decides to operate Naia 3 on its own, it will have to spend a few hundred million dollars more.

All it will have in the terminal is the structure, plus some incomplete equipment. In other words, as it is, the terminal is not yet operational.

And here we are, hearing about somebody's interest in opening the new terminal for the sake of the public, for which he must breast all odds against an amicable settlement.

But of course, there are no longer vested interests in this country. Gloriaetta already wiped them out two days ago.

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GENERAL PROGRAM OF ACTIVITIES

SEPTEMBER 12	SEPTEMBER 13	September 14		September 15		September 16
Arrival	**Ati-Atihan Welcome** **Registration** (8:00-10:00) **On-the-Spot Tilapia Painting Contest** (8:00-12:00) **Opening Program/Trade Show Exhibit** (10:00-11:30) **Press Conference** (11:30-12:30)	TECHNICAL SESSION 1 **Genetics** Dr. Graham C. Mair *Chair* (8:30-11:40)	TECHNICAL SESSION 4 **Health Management and Diseases** Dr. John S. Clark *Chair* (8:30-2:20)	TECHNICAL SESSION 6 **Pond Management and Production Systems** Dr. Abdel-Fattah M. El-Sayed *Chair* (8:30-2:40)	TECHNICAL SESSION 7 **Nutrition** Dr. Wing Keong Ng *Chair* (8:30-5:30)	TECHNICAL TOURS 6:00 am to 6:00 pm
LUNCH BREAK (12:00 - 1:20)						
Exhibit Ingress/Poster Set-up	**"Fiesta Tilapia" Fishing Contest** PICC Reflection Bridge (1:20-3:00)	TECHNICAL SESSION 2 **Reproduction and Sex Control** Dr. Rafael D. Guerrero III Chair (1:20-2:40)	TECHNICAL SESSION 5 **Regional Reviews** Dr. Oyedapo Fagbenro Chair (2:20-5:30)		TECHNICAL SESSION 8 **Brackish-Water Culture Systems** Dr. Yang Yi Chair (2:20-5:30)	
	Plenary: Invited Papers **"Delivering Better Quality Tilapia Seed to Farmers"** Dr. David Little **"Tilapia Culture in China"** Dr. Lai Qiu Ming* and Yang Yi (3:00-5:00)	TECHNICAL SESSION 3 **Economics, Marketing and Processing** Dr. Kevin Fitzsimmons Chair (3:00-5:10)		**Industry Forum** Basilio Rodriguez, Jr. Chair (3:30-5:30)		
Trade Show Viewing (8:00am -5:00pm) Poster Presentation (4:00-5:00)						
	DA-BFAR Welcome Dinner Coconut Palace (7:00pm- 12:00mn)	**"Fiesta Tilapia"** Media Cooking Contest Blue Wave (6:00-10:00)		**"Fiesta Tilapia" Party** PICC Bridgeway (6:00-10:00)		

Trade Exhibit Open to the Public on Sept. 14-15 9am - 5pm

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For more information, please contact the Secretariat:
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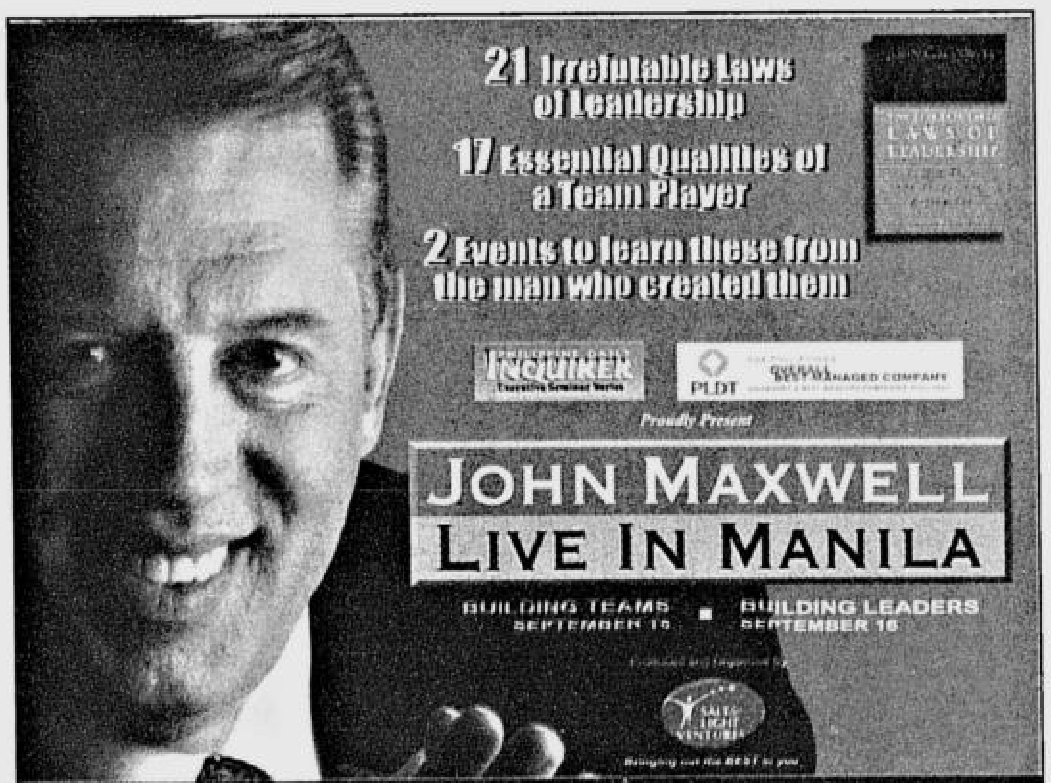
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Mega Learning Event #2
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Lot No. 432-F-3, Mabini
Minimum Bid Price 3,422,000.00

LOT 13 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 1,407 sqm
Lot 482-F-9 Mabini
Minimum Bid Price 958,000.00

LOT 14 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 225 sqm.
Floor Area 100 sqm.
Lot 2 Blk 17, No. 24 Rose St
Baptista Village, Calao
Minimum Bid Price 778,000.00

LOT 15 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 600 sqm
Lot 752-E-7 Patul
Minimum Bid Price 765,000.00

LOT 16 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 400 sqm.
Lot 752-E-8 Patul
Minimum Bid Price 600,000.00

LOT 17 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 765 sqm
Lot 4988-B-1 & B-5 Along V. Mapa & Torres Sts. Plaridel
Minimum Bid Price 1,748,000.00

LOT 18 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 382 sqm.
Lot 4988-B-3 Along V. Mapa. Plaridel
Minimum Bid Price 1,089,000.00

LOT 19 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 367 sqm.
Lot 4988-B-2 Along Torres Plaridel
Minimum Bid Price 1,103,000.00

LOT 20 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 2,452 sqm.
Floor Area 211 sqm.
Lot 1378-A, Corner Dela Cruz and Wiona Sts., Buenavista
Minimum Bid Price 2,391,000.00

LOT 21 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 298.57 sqm.
Floor Area 192 sqm.
Lot 621 No. 21 Recto Ave., Victory Sur
Minimum Bid Price 986,000.00

LOT 22 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 1,538 sqm.
Floor Area 72 sqm
Lot 20037, No. 26 Purok 2
Madamba St., Rizal
Minimum Bid Price 1,579,000.00

LOT 23 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 853 sqm.
Floor Area 98 sqm
Lot 10053-A, Gomez St., Rosario
Santiago City Isabela
Minimum Bid Price 1,722,000.00

LOT 24 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 1,747 sqm
Floor Area 115 sqm.
Lot 10053-B, & 10053-C
Gomez St., Rosario
Minimum Bid Price 3,344,000.00

LOT 25 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 1,726 sqm
Lot Nos. 10053-D & 10053-E
Gomez St. Rosario
Minimum Bid Price 3,279,000.00

ALICIA

LOT 26 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 1,014 sqm.
Floor Area 102 sqm
Lot 8 Blk 3, Rizal
Minimum Bid Price 200,000.00

LOT 27 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 112 sqm.
Floor Area 200 sqm.
Lot 14-A, Calaocan
Minimum Bid Price 1,308,000.00

LOT 28 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 2,931 sqm.
Lot 6-C-6-D & 6-N, National Rd., Victoria
Minimum Bid Price 997,000.00

LOT 29 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 716 sqm.
Floor Area 165 sqm
Lot 6-A & 6-B, National Rd., Victoria
Minimum Bid Price 3,162,000.00

LOT 30 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 800 sqm.
Lot I Calaocan
Minimum Bid Price 204,000.00

LOT 31 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 3,605 sqm.
Lot 13-C Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price 1,021,000.00

AURORA

LOT 32 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 1,102.5 sqm.
Floor Area 44 sqm.
Lot 1-A Brgy San Ramon
Minimum Bid Price 585,000.00

LOT 33 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 138 sqm.
L2989-A Pasuquin St.
San Pedro/San Pablo
Minimum Bid Price 176,000.00

LOT 34 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 909 sqm.
Floor Area 456 sqm.
Lot 1618-A-2-G-1-C & Lot 1618-A-2-G-1-A Cacal St., Bagong Linis
Minimum Bid Price 1,183,000.00

LOT 35 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 550 sqm.
Floor Area 113 sqm.
Lot 2856, San Jose
Minimum Bid Price 948,000.00

LOT 36 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 318.5 sqm.
Lot 3301-E Bagong Tanza
Minimum Bid Price 25,000.00

BURGOS

LOT 37 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 346.66 sqm.
Floor Area 207 sqm.
Lot 20234-C, Caliguan
Minimum Bid Price 742,000.00

CABAGAN

LOT 38 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 539 sqm
Floor Area 252 sqm.
Lot 2430 Cubag
Minimum Bid Price 368,000.00

LOT 39 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 1,203 sqm
Lot 2219-B Cubag
Minimum Bid Price 85,000.00

LOT 40 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 1,100 sqm
Lot 2219-A Cubag
Minimum Bid Price 74,000.00

LOT 41 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 550 sqm.
Floor Area 109 sqm.
Lot 1406-D & Lot 1406-E Barrio of Luquilu
Minimum Bid Price 427,000.00

CABATUAN

LOT 42 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 767 sqm.
Lot 2208-B, Centro
Minimum Bid Price 464,000.00

LOT 43 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 889 sqm.
Lot 243-New-A-7, Centro
Minimum Bid Price 212,000.00

LOT 44 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 1,363 sqm.
Floor Area 51 sqm.
Lot 2098-E-4-A & 2098-E-4-B
Barrio of Paraiso
Minimum Bid Price 750,000.00

LOT 45 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 540 sqm.
Lot 2204-B Along Prv'l Rd.
Purok 1, Saranay
Minimum Bid Price 513,000.00

CAUAYAN

LOT 46 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 513 sqm.
Lot 4, Provincial Rd., Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price 1,841,000.00

LOT 47 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 424 sqm.
Lot 2-G, Renza
Minimum Bid Price 115,000.00

LOT 48 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 324 sqm
Lot B-4-E San Fermin
Minimum Bid Price 29,000.00

LOT 49 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 300 sqm.
Lot B-3-C-13 Prenza
Minimum Bid Price 77,000.00

LOT 50 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 300 sqm.
Lot 10 Blk 2, San Fermin
Minimum Bid Price 28,000.00

LOT 51 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 437 sqm.
Lot 2-A-4 Tagaran
Minimum Bid Price 93,000.00

LOT 52 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 625 sqm.
Lot 2-A-3 Tagaran
Minimum Bid Price 133,000.00

LOT 53 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 300 sqm.
Lot 1 Blk 5 San Fermin
Minimum Bid Price 31,000.00

LOT 54 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 648 sqm.
Lot 386-B-2-A Alicaocao
Minimum Bid Price 83,000.00

LOT 55 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 1,390 sqm
Lot J-1 Baringin
Minimum Bid Price 48,000.00

LOT 56 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 936 sqm.
Lot 20537-A Rizal(Formerly Cullalabal)
Minimum Bid Price 119,000.00

LOT 57 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 1,012 sqm
Floor Area 175 sqm.
Lot No. 4713-B Brgy Rizal
Minimum Bid Price 788,000.00

LOT 58 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 649 sqm.
Floor Area 85 sqm
Lot 1-A-21-L, F. Dalupang St
Extension, District 1
Minimum Bid Price 1,254,000.00

LOT 59 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 1,350 sqm
Lot E District I
Minimum Bid Price 29,000.00

LOT 60 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 382 sqm.
Lot 19, Sillawit
Minimum Bid Price 98,000.00

LOT 61 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 1,629 sqm
Lot B-5-B-1-C Cabaruan
Minimum Bid Price 306,000.00

LOT 62 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 1,497 sqm.
Lots 3,1 & 5 National Rd. Renza
Minimum Bid Price 2,545,000.00

LOT 63 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 500 sqm.
Lot B-5-C Nat'l Rd Prenza
Minimum Bid Price 1,425,000.00

LOT 64 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 500 sqm
Lot B-5-D Nat'l Rd. Prenza
Minimum Bid Price 1,663,000.00

LOT 65 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 2,000 sqm.
Lot B-5-E & Lot B-5-F-3-S-5
National Road Prenza
Minimum Bid Price 4,080,000.00

LOT 66 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 250 sqm.
Lot C-5-D-1-C, San Fermin
Minimum Bid Price 128,000.00

LOT 67 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 395 sqm.
Lot 1-E Prenza
Minimum Bid Price 135,000.00

LOT 68 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 300 sqm.
Floor Area 155 sqm
Lot 4-A Along Nat'l Highway, Minante
Minimum Bid Price 1,488,000.00

LOT 69 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 460 sqm.
Floor Area 133 sqm.
Lot 20 Prenza(Now San Fermin)
Minimum Bid Price 813,000.00

LOT 70 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 1,000 sqm.
Lot No 20753-B, San Fermin
Minimum Bid Price 334,000.00

LOT 71 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 345 sqm.
Floor Area 152 sqm.
Lot 3 Blk 3, Coloma Subd. San Fermin
Minimum Bid Price 445,000.00

GAMU

LOT 72 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 564 sqm.
L4238-A-3-D Along Upi- Roxas Rd. Mabini
Minimum Bid Price 48,000.00

LOT 73 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 2,429 sqm
Floor Area 168 sqm
Lot 1510 Corner Libertad & Las Perlas Sts., District 1
Minimum Bid Price 1,600,000.00

LOT 74 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 450 sqm.
Lot 17 Along Nat'l Road Upi
Minimum Bid Price 77,000.00

LOT 75 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 450 sqm
Lot 16 Along Nat'l Rd. Upi
Minimum Bid Price 86,000.00

ILAGAN

LOT 76 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 1,200 sqm.
Lot 1-B-2-D-4 & Lot 1-B-2-D-3 Alibagu
Minimum Bid Price 1,479,000.00

LOT 77 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 362 sqm.
Floor Area 85 sqm.
Lot 13069 Along Nat'l Road Marana 1st
Minimum Bid Price 212,000.00

LOT 78 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 493 sqm
Lot 13125 Marana 1st
Minimum Bid Price 76,000.00

LOT 79 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 553 sqm.
Lot 2 Blk 15 Capitol Hill, Calamagui
Minimum Bid Price 35,000.00

LOT 80 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 488 sqm
Lot 1 Blk 15 Capitol Hill, Calamagui
Minimum Bid Price 63,000.00

LOT 81 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 2,490 sqm.
Lot 2-A Calamagui 2nd
Minimum Bid Price 539,000.00

LOT 82 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 447 sqm.
Lot No 7 Calamagui 1st
Minimum Bid Price 81,000.00

JONES

LOT 83 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 9,040 sqm.
Lot F & Lot G Fugo
Minimum Bid Price 284,000.00

MALLIG

LOT 84 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 1,000 sqm.
Floor Area 54 sqm.
Lot 591-C Barrio Of Olango
Minimum Bid Price 685,000.00

LOT 85 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 732 sqm
Floor Area 105 sqm
Lots 4108-A & Lot 4108-B Siempre Viva
Minimum Bid Price 1,005,000.00

LOT 86 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 752 sqm
Lot 3903 San Jose Norte
Minimum Bid Price 80,000.00

LOT 87 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 750 sqm.
Lot 3728 San Jose Norte
Minimum Bid Price 160,000.00

LOT 88 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 748 sqm
Floor Area 105 sqm
Lot 3833 San Jose Norte
Minimum Bid Price 585,000.00

LOT 89 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 1,094 sqm
Floor Area 180 sqm
Lot 39-M National Road,
Brgy Victoria
Minimum Bid Price 813,000.00

LOT 90 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 537 sqm.
Floor Area 91 sqm
Lot Nos 72 & 71-A, Casili
Minimum Bid Price 806,000.00

LOT 91 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 2,640 sqm.
Floor Area 189 sqm.
Lot Nos 813-F & 813-G
National Road, Brgy Maligaya
Minimum Bid Price 1,995,000.00

LOT 92 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 1,916 sqm
Lot 1031-A-1-D Nat'l Road, Centro 1
Minimum Bid Price 1,310,000.00

LOT 93 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 2,729 sqm.
Lot 757-R-1, R-2, & R-3 Rang-Ayan
Minimum Bid Price 136,000.00

LOT 94 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 3,173 sqm.
Lot No 767-U-1, U-2, & U-3 Rang-Ayan
Minimum Bid Price 270,000.00

LOT 95 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 10,000 sqm.
Floor Area 146 sqm.
Lot 767-S, Rang-Ayan
Minimum Bid Price 403,000.00

LOT 96 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 2,635 sqm.
Floor Area 110 sqm.
Lot 771-A, Rang Ayan
Minimum Bid Price 492,000.00

NAGUILIAN

LOT 97 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 481 sqm.
Floor Area 97 sqm.
Lot 24 National Road
Brgy San Manuel
Minimum Bid Price 548,000.00

QUEZON

LOT 98 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 400 sqm.
Lot 2686-C, Abut
Minimum Bid Price 75,000.00

LOT 99 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 400 sqm.
Floor Area 87 sqm.
Lot 2686-A, Abut
Minimum Bid Price 248,000.00

LOT 100 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 459 sqm.
Floor Area 162 sqm.
Lot 8, Blk 4, Abut
Minimum Bid Price 431,000.00

LOT 101 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 896 sqm.
Floor Area 213 sqm.
Lot 2 & 2-A Block 108, Arellano
Minimum Bid Price 1,658,000.00

LOT 102 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 900 sqm.
Floor Area 288 sqm.
Lot 4-A & 4-B Nat'l Rd Arellano
Minimum Bid Price 2,987,000.00

LOT 103 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 9,973 sqm.
Lot 2679-B-2 Barrio Abut
Minimum Bid Price 292,000.00

LOT 104 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 869 sqm
Floor Area 323 sqm
Lot 6 Blk 71, National Road, Samonte
Minimum Bid Price 2,339,000.00

LOT 105 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 465 sqm
Floor Area 51 sqm
Lot 5 Blk 13, Barrio Abut
Minimum Bid Price 269,000.00

LOT 106 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 536 sqm
Floor Area 129 sqm
Lot Nos 8-A & 8-B Blk 13 Abut
Minimum Bid Price 122,000.00

LOT 107 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 786 sqm.
Floor Area 103 sqm.
Lot 2 Blk 5, National Rd. Abut
Minimum Bid Price 272,000.00

QUIRINO

LOT 108 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 1,794 sqm
Lot 23-B San Juan
Minimum Bid Price 84,000.00

ROXAS

LOT 109 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 744 sqm
Floor Area 248 sqm.
Lot 7855 J.P. Rizal St.
Cor Cm Recto St., Rizal
Minimum Bid Price 1,852,000.00

LOT 110 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 240 sqm.
Lot 14 Blk 7 Bantug(Formerly Vira)
Minimum Bid Price 143,000.00

LOT 111 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 480 sqm
Floor Area 60 sqm
Lots 9 & 10, Blk 7, National Rd., Vira
Minimum Bid Price 1,229,000.00

LOT 112 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 480 sqm.
Floor Area 94 sqm.
Lots 3 & 4 Blk 7, National Road Bantug
Minimum Bid Price 986,000.00

LOT 113 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 480 sqm
Lot 6 & 7 Blk 4 Nat'l Rd., Bantug
Minimum Bid Price 1,075,000.00

LOT 114 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 226 sqm
Floor Area 195 sqm.
Lot 1 & Lot 7787-A-1 Leal St., Bantug
Minimum Bid Price 3,022,000.00

LOT 115 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 480 sqm.
Floor Area 104 sqm
Lot 15, Blk 2 & Lot 16, Blk 2, National Rd Bantug (Formerly Vira)
Minimum Bid Price 1,365,000.00

LOT 116 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 420 sqm
Lot 7614-B-4, National Road, Bantug
Minimum Bid Price 1,995,000.00

LOT 117 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 5,070 sqm
Lot 5797-B Salero Nuesa
Minimum Bid Price 471,000.00

LOT 118 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 985 sqm.
Floor Area 252 sqm
Lots 487-A & 487-B, Provincial Road, Vira
Minimum Bid Price 2,793,000.00

LOT 119 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 9,030 sqm
Floor Area 179 sqm.
Lots 3886-A B D, & F
Provincial Road, Basilio
Minimum Bid Price 2,380,000.00

LOT 120 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 302 sqm.
Lot 7714-B, Gen Antonio Luna St., Vira
Minimum Bid Price 583,000.00

LOT 121 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 240 sqm
Lot 6 Blk 11, Vira
Minimum Bid Price 143,000.00

LOT 122 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 732 sqm
Floor Area 122 sqm.
Lot 546-D-1, Gen. Gregorio Del Pilar St. Vira
Minimum Bid Price 962,000.00

LOT 123 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 270 sqm.
Floor Area 266 sqm.
Lot 7840-B-1, Don Mariano Marcos Ave., Rizal
Minimum Bid Price 4,334,000.00

LOT 124 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 374 sqm.
Floor Area 188 sqm.
Lot 7744-A-2 & 7744-A-1 Pres. Sergio Osmena Ave., Vira
Minimum Bid Price 2,291,000.00

LOT 125 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 623 sqm.
Lot 7784 Leal St. Bantug(Formerly Vira)
Minimum Bid Price 1,339,000.00

LOT 126 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 270 sqm
Floor Area 549 sqm.
Lot 7840-A, Don Mariano Marcos Ave. Rizal,Bantug
Minimum Bid Price 6,032,000.00

LOT 127 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 12,087 sqm.
Lot 5160-A San Antonio
Minimum Bid Price 1,412,000.00

SAN MANUEL

LOT 128 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 1,701 sqm.
Floor Area 108 sqm.
Lot 8-8, 7004 & 7005 Sandiat East
Minimum Bid Price 708,000.00

LOT 129 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 505 sqm
Floor Area 117 sqm.
Lot 1-B-3-C-1 & Lot 1-B-3-C-2
Nat'l Rd. Dist I
Minimum Bid Price 935,000.00

LOT 130 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 800 sqm.
Floor Area 160 sqm
Lot No. 4-L Cabantan
Minimum Bid Price 735,000.00

LOT 131 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 1,651 sqm.
Lot No 4-K Cabantan
Minimum Bid Price 421,000.00

LOT 132 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 2,163 sqm.
Floor Area 76 sqm
Lot 4-H, Brgy Cabantan
Minimum Bid Price 1,530,000.00

LOT 133 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 324 sqm.
Lot 12 Blk 4, District 3
Minimum Bid Price 165,000.00

LOT 134 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 303 sqm
Lot 19 Blk 7, District 3
Minimum Bid Price 155,000.00

LOT 135 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 321 sqm.
Lot 20 Blk 7, District 3
Minimum Bid Price 165,000.00

LOT 136 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 304 sqm
Lot 13 Blk 4, District 3
Minimum Bid Price 155,000.00

LOT 137 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 334 sqm.
Lot 14 Blk 7, District 3
Minimum Bid Price 106,000.00

LOT 138 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 678 sqm.
Floor Area 80 sqm.
Lots 1 & 2, Blk 3, Bonifacio St., District 3
Minimum Bid Price 1,800,000.00

SAN MATEO

LOT 139 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 3,000 sqm.
Lot 7030-D-5-G, Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price 715,000.00

LOT 140 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 484 sqm
Lot 9482-B-1, Daramuangan Sur
Minimum Bid Price 823,000.00

LOT 141 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 2,423 sqm.
Lot 9842-B-2-A & Lot 9842-B-2-M
Provincial Rd., Poblacion I
Minimum Bid Price 1,570,000.00

LOT 142 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 680 sqm
Floor Area 620 sqm
Lot 9841-F-1B & Lot 9841-F-1-A
Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price 4,276,000.00

LOT 143 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 541 sqm.
Floor Area 595 sqm
Lot 9842-A Brgy 1 Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price 2,696,000.00

LOT 144 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 30,000 sqm
Lot 6710-D-3 Barrio Lnafiwa (New Vila Cruz)
Minimum Bid Price 788,000.00

LOT 145 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 801 sqm
Floor Area 297 sqm
Lot 8423-A-17 Bonifacio St.
Brgy 4, Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price 1,124,000.00

TUMAUINI

LOT 146 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 900 sqm.
Lots D, E, F Maligaya
Minimum Bid Price 102,000.00

LOT 147 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 200 sqm.
Floor Area 48 sqm.
Lot 2219-C, San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 289,000.00

LOT 148 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 285 sqm
Lot 1515-A, Lingaling
Minimum Bid Price 122,000.00

LOT 149 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 666 sqm
Floor Area 126 sqm
Lot 1, National Rd. San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 1,253,000.00

LOT 150 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 900 sqm
Lot 967-A Maligaya
Minimum Bid Price 192,000.00

LOT 151 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 250 sqm
Floor Area 199 sqm
Lot 1860-A Dela Cruz St. District II
Minimum Bid Price 618,000.00

LOT 152 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 249 sqm
Lot 1860-B, Pascaran District II
Minimum Bid Price 107,000.00

LOT 153 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 569.5 sqm
Lot 1597-B District IV
Minimum Bid Price 327,000.00

LOT 154 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 569.5 sqm
Floor Area 63 sqm
Lot 1597-A Along Angubong St. District IV
Minimum Bid Price 467,000.00

GUARANTEED FINANCING • FIXED INTEREST UP TO 10 YEARS • 10% DOWNPAYMENT FOR LOTS • 25% DOWNPAYMENT FOR DEVELOPED PROPERTIES
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Don 0920-9216150 • Dennis 0921-7138545 • James (078) 682- 8196 • Henry (078) 682-7216

CBRE CB RICHARD ELLIS AUCTION MANAGER

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

LOT

PASIG

METROVILLE SUBD LA333m² P4,054/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

LOT

QUEZON CITY

Ayala Hillside Estates
Ms. Kalios 416-1661 • 952-7106 0917-3708160 • 0916-5461974

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

LOT

QUEZON CITY

Rush Sale 220sqm lot w/ unfinished house NAPOCOR Vill T.Sora QC 4566071

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

LOT

RIZAL

BEVERLY HILLS 862/SQM P3500/SQM T-8425621

Valley Golf 1973m² Terms Ok at 1900/m² 0918-4834182

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

LOT

BULACAN

SAN MIGUEL BUL 4000m² P180/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

LOT

BATANGAS

RANCHO VISTA SUBD LA613m2 P2,248/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

OTHER AREAS

TOWN & COUNTRY HILLS LA240m² P3,125/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

CAVITE

DON BOSCO EXEC HTS LA128m2 P2,900/m2 Vic 8903461 loc 27

PARKPLACE SUBD LA120m² P5,750/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

ST. CHARBEL DASMA nr SM 371m2 P2,650/m2 Vic 8903461 loc 27

LAGUNA

3HAS CALAMBA P700/SQM W/ WATER/ELEC. T-8425621

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30% D/P Bal. 3 Yrs to pay at 0%
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SOUTH PEAK P5,000/m2 LA240m2 Vic 8903461 loc 25/27

MEMORIAL LOT

LOY MK 4LTS at 50Te: Loy PQ 2LTS at 47T each : - 09164834182

BULACAN

SAN MIGUEL BUL 4000m² P180/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

FACTORY/WHSE

PASIG TAGIG AREA
LA7439m² FA3000m²
FULLY FENCED W.H2OTANK C6 ACCESS 0917-6251467 632-0129, 656-0360, 687-7325

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

COMMERCIAL

QUEZON CITY

ONE BURGUNDY PLAZA KATIPUNAN Q.C. FRNT ATENEO FA103, 75, 50 m² 9289541 / 7313055

HOUSE

MARIKINA

2STY 3br 2tb FA100M² water tank 1car grge/tel/cable/AC Ready nr St. Scho. School 942-0654 or 09173736642

QUEZON CITY

Bung 3BR 2TB 1car grge 11T #9 K9 St Kamias 644-9030

RIZAL

U/D 4BR3YB 1family Rm with terrace semi furnish P25T Call 6820921 Precy

OTHER AREAS

Kingsville Hills Subd Antipolo 2 Stry 2BR Bath Fmly Rm Drty Ktchn 6307585

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

PASEO PARKVIEW STDUIO FF PERLA MANSION LEGASPI STUDIO FF 0917-3007100 (034)-4338006

SANLO DUPLEX 526-8048

MANILA

CONDO NR LA SALLE ST. SCHO H-WAY 62m² 2TB W/GARAGE 12T/MO. T400-9407

MANDALUYONG

SAN FRANCISCO GARDENS Boni Ave 3BR 3TB P18T/mo Tel.# 722-2055 • 721-3252

QUEZON CITY

OHT-3 Unit 17H 2BR Furnish Eastwood City Libis 633-0164

PHILAM TOWNHOUSE FRONT EDSA Bldg 2 UNIT 7 7361925

MAKATI

2BR 1BR w/grge 8992148

4Dr nr Mkt Med 0917-5405281

Unfurn 3BR3TB Md P25T 8903104

MANILA

2BR Sta Ana U/D 564-6940

3br P12t Altura Ext 09205831308

840 P.Noval NR UST Tel 7313035 7361925 9289541

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

APARTMENT

PASIG

New 3BR 2TB Grg 6365384

QUEZON CITY

5 ILNOI CUBAO 09275349653

Cubao Apart 9957167-68

Lady 3.5Tnew studio9137513

SAN JUAN

A.LUNA ST 2story spacious P9T/mo good loc'n 6461603

WAREHOUSE/ FACTORY

WAREHOUSE
FOR LEASE
Cabuyao, Laguna
500-2,000sq.m.
JANIS 546-8250 to 52
0917-4731421

ROOM & BOARD

120 MLA 7118679/4113301

1BR w/AC 3T MKT 8992148

BF PQUE 8275345/8257524

BUENDIA PASAY 8345973
SEMI FURN FREE L/W
1 PER ONLY COM- CR 3T MO

•FURNISH PASAY 8872865•

Magallanes Vill. 852-6918

BEDSPACE

Resdn'l/Furnish 2PerRm Male Single Bed T897-3770

LOAN & MORTGAGE

2% W/O TAKING CAR 3677523/24

93 CORONA P210K VIC 8907647

BUSINES DOCTOR 524-3197

FINANCING-EASY FAST VERY PRIVATE CONVENIENT H/L BUSINESS PERSONAL Gigie Ernie 8903461 loc 25/23

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT

50 sqm Ortigas 09178454534

MALATE MLA 526-8048

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE OR RENT

CONDO/TWHSE/ FOR SALE/RENT

SALE / RENT 8444746 G'HILLS

QUEZON CITY

NEW MANILA 3BR 182SM 9529590

APARTMENT FOR SALE/RENT

APT P4,500-7,000 Manila Bedspacers 1,500 above 561-0960 look for Joyce/Aj

OTHER REAL ESTATE

REALTORS/SEMINAR

BROKER'S REVIEW 4382966

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

CARS

BMW

'94 BMW 2-Tone M/T 316i P500T 09274907797

HONDA

'94 CIVIC HB 63TKm Full Maintenance Record P220T Neg For Cash
SOLD • SOLD • SOLD

HYUNDAI

'03 Matrix A/T 1.6 Gas Showroom Cond. 09274907797

ISUZU

ISUZU ELF-97 9340170

MERCEDES

For Sale 2001 MBenz C200K Call Gina 8176062

NISSAN

'93 Nissan Taxi 95T 2330582

TOYOTA

98HILUX DSL P358T 6568483

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

CARS

TOYOTA

RAV4 '96 P435T NEG 3DR MATIC RUSH! 284-1837

REVO-02 MATIC 9340170

VAN/PICK-UP

'98 L300 Van 2-Tone M/T 1.8 Gas P280T Neg. 09274907797

OTHER CAR BRANDS

BIG SALE!!!
★PAJERO 2.5 Php 390,000
★TERRANO 2.7 350,000
★NISSAN Van 220,000
ETC
•FULLY FURNISHED UNITS
•A-1 CONDITIONED UNITS •NO HIDDEN COST
PERFECT LOGISTICS PHILS INC
Km. 40 Sumulong Hiway
Mambugan, Antipolo City
2501370 / 6822858 / 66

Trooper Terrano Town-Hi Ace safari Delica Estima etc 7127539 ; 09178215832

BUSES/TRUCKS

Elf 6W4BE1 2TBoom 932-6706

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CARS FOR RENT

Benz Jaguar Lincoln 6625922

CarsVans CoasterBus 422-9296

CARS/VANS/BRIDAL 8969956

Cheap Van Rental 9330311

P600/L3 9136710 / 4333682

Toyco U Drive w/o Driver All Kinds Cars Van Revo Dly. Wk.Mo. Rental 8023021-22

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REVO • VIOS • ALTIS • STAREX
CRLA • CRV • LYNX • 536-8822
303-9789 • 426-2278 • 426-4084

CAR LOAN

1.5% Fast Car Loan 3677523/24

1.5% CARLOAN 373-6519

1.5% CARLOAN 533-8254

1.5% Easy Carloan 7815352/55

1.5% Fast Car Loan 6567685

1.5% Fast Car Loan 6560140

1.5% w/oTaking Car 3650974/75

1.5% w/oTaking Car 3732081-82

1.5% w/oTaking Car 7228942-43

•1HR Fast Car Loan 7125202•

2% w/o Taking Car 7262780

2% w/o taking car 7880183-84

2% w/oTaking Car 7221021

2% w/oTaking Car 8959454

2% w/oTaking Car 8870490/95

2% w/oTaking Car 8966630/33

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

BILLIARDS

Sale/Rental/Service 8014494

BUY/SELL

CAP/PRUD PLANS GIE 7800106

EDUC'L PLAN Dang 8061574

GARAGE SALE

GARAGE SALE 252-6220

PETS

Dog Trainer 0919-2050952

DOG TRAINER 0919-3419012

G RET PUPS 6830677

Husky 22T Champline 4343059

★YORKIE PUPS M/F 8123216

LAB 4mos 09205566100

Labrador Pups Call 9425737

Maltese Male No PCCI 4343059

PHILIPPINE DOG SCHOOL Trains off leash & even by signal only. Sale; Ger. Shep. Tel 721-3736 / 09178489308

A tutorial center in Greenhills needs:

- MATH, SCIENCE & ENGLISH TUTORS/ TEACHERS
- OFFICE PERSONNEL
  - female, 20 to 29 years old
  - must be a College graduate
  - full time
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Interested applicants, pls. call:
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WANTED TO BUY

BUY • SELL • PAWN
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5633742 0917-8473744

BUYING ROLEX
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7220433 • 4123543

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF LOSS

Lost alien certificate of registration issued to Dayaldas Pribhdas by Bureau of Immigration on July 9, 1996 MNL(PDI-July 7-11, 2004)

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

A team of Entrepreneurs will be visiting Bohol,Cebu&Makati to introduce an Int'l Business model that's expanding fast.Text bk @ 0919-8967737 to Reserve

Looking 4 Enterprising Pple frm Davao/Mla who want to earn Income from S 'pore & Usa Join our Int'l franchising Biz Appt 09275374741

BE AN ENTREPRENEUR, START YOUR OWN AGENCY NOW W/O CAPITAL! 0919-8691481

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earnextranow.com code:atb2004 8531008 09178901851 Arlene

EARN P10T up/week - HOW? share d bisnez 0921-5914739

Extra Income P10T/mo up Part /Full Time 09164217139

JOIN TOP MLM CO.-FQ Invest wisely 0926-2634343

RTW Wholesaler 3738821

BUSINESS FOR SALE

RESTAURANT FOR SALE FULLY EQUIPPED T#801-72-03 Cell No. (0917)5398108

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

FEMALE

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT [illegible]

HAIR DRESSER FEMALE SM MEGAMALL 0917-8398638

WAITRESS text 09194808747 65A Malakas St VLuna Rd QC

MALE/FEMALE

CAREGIVER T-5280747

Immediate Hiring: Contact Joyce • 0917-8353019 Cooks, Waiters, Bartenders

JOB HIRING 09196913491 IRA

Math/English Tutors 6470978

Wanted Exp. Cook 8074128 09195521961 Call CHIT

QUEZON POWER PHILIPPINES, LTD.,
A 470 MW COAL FIRED POWER FACILITY
located in Mauban, Quezon, urgently needs a

PEST CONTROL SERVICE PROVIDER

TO BE ACCREDITED, the PEST CONTROL SERVICE PROVIDER should have the following MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

- Registered and in good standing with the Securities and Exchange Commission or the Department of Trade and Industry.
- In continuous operations for the last five (5) years.
- A member of The Pest Control Association of the Philippines or Pest Exterminator Association of the Philippines.
- Holder of a valid Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority license
- Minimum of two (2) available certified pesticide applicators
- Have an existing contract involving at least three (3) industrial clients (manufacturing plants and facilities)
- Uses environment friendly products.
- Has a good track record and satisfactory performance as attested by at least three (3) clients
- Could mobilize a team to survey an industrial area on short notice.

IF YOUR COMPANY MEETS THESE REQUIREMENTS, PLEASE SUBMIT LETTER OF INTENT, COMPANY PROFILES AND PROOF OF QUALIFICATION ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 18, 2004 TO:

The Accreditation Board for Quezon Power
c/o Emmanuel M. Florece
BPO INTERNATIONAL, INC.
6758 Ayala Avenue, Makati City
Telephone nos. 892-0481 to 94 (local 8801), 0918-3876853
Fax No. 325-2764

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email your application at:
jimcarterjr1@yahoo.com
or call Tel.: 8126884 (1:00 pm-4:00pm)

WAREHOUSE FOR RENT

- Located at I-A Masagana St., Quirino Hi-way Manotok Subd., Baesa, Quezon City
- 2,735.61 sq.m. whose w/ 10.56 meters high ceiling
- immediately available for occupation by Oct.
- Ideal for storage & light manufacturing companies

EQUIPMENT & MACHINERIES FOR SALE

- Use in manufacturing environmental friendly, tableware products such as plates, bowls, etc.
- Offered price is very reasonable/cheap as owner plans to migrate abroad

For inquiries pls. call
6313407 • 6319017

REAL ESTATE SEMINAR REVIEW

Real Estate Brokers Association of the Phils. (REBAP) Greenhills Chapter announces their Real Estate Seminar Review which will start on Sept. 18, 25, Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23, 2004 at Club Filipino, Greenhills. For more details, call Grace Cruz 746-6104 or 631-3296

More Classifieds on Page B2

POEA
24-HR HOTLINES
722-1144 • 722-1155

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
SUGAR REGULATORY ADMINISTRATION
North Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City
P.O. Box 70, U.P. Diliman, Quezon City
TIN 000-784-336-000

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA) through its Bidding and Awards Committee (BAC) invites interested parties to apply for eligibility and to bid for the supply of the following items to be delivered to different points in the Philippines, as follows:

SCHEDULE OF BIDDING ACTIVITIES	VARIOUS FARM MACHINERIES, AND EQUIPMENT, TRUCKS AND HEAVY EQUIPMENT, (BRAND NEW AND RECON) REBIDDING	LABORATORY EQUIPMENT (BRAND NEW) REBIDDING
Issuance of Eligibility & Bidding Documents	Sept. 13 - Oct. 5, 2004 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM SRA Bidding Scretariat 3rd Floor SRA Annex Building Sugar Regulatory Administration North Avenue, Diliman, Q.C. For a non-refundable amount of Php 500.00	Sept. 13 - Oct. 5, 2004 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM SRA Bidding Secretariat 3rd Floor SRA Annex Building Sugar Regulatory Administration North Avenue, Diliman, Q.C. For a non-refundable amount of Php 500.00
Pre-bid Conference	Septembe 27, 2004 9:00 AM	September 27, 2004 2:00 PM
Submission & Opening of Eligibility & Bid Envelopes	October 6, 2004 9:00 AM	October 6, 2004 2:00 PM
Venue for the Pre-Bid Conference and Public Bidding	SRA Social Hall North Avenue, Diliman, Q.C.	SRA Social Hall North Avenue, Diliman, Q.C.
APPROVED BUDGET FOR THE CONTRACT	Php 3,667,120.00	Php 130,000.00

For particulars, please contact:

The Bidding Secretariat • Telephone No. 929-6837

All particulars relative to the Eligibility, Bid bond, Pre-bid Conference, Bid Evaluation and Award of Contracts shall be governed by the provisions of R.A. 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations and other applicable government rules and regulations.

The SRA assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidders for any expense incurred in the preparation of the bids.

The SRA reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defect or informality therein or accept any bid(s) or offer(s) which it may consider to be advantageous and beneficial to the government.

(Sgd.) JAMES C. LEDESMA
Administrator

(PDI - Sept. 11 & 18, 2004)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

The public is hereby notified that our **OFFICIAL RECEIPTS** (General Form) Series Numbers **8059951 – 8060000** was lost in transit and shall be cancelled immediately. Please report unauthorized use of these receipts to the **ISABELA STATE UNIVERSITY**, Echague, Isabela. If you are in possession of these Official Receipts, kindly surrender to the ISABELA STATE UNIVERSITY, Echague, Isabela or call (078) 672-20-20 for proper recording.

ISABELA STATE UNIVERSITY
Echague, Isabela

(PDI-Sept. 11, 2004)

WANTED SUPPLIER
For Ladies and Children's Sleep Wear and Subcon also
Call: 5241363 • 5243423 • 0917 8379874 (8:00 am to 6:00 pm)

PHILIPPINE HEART CENTER

East Avenue, Quezon City
is now accepting applications for
Academic Year 2005

FELLOWSHIP (with specific requirements)

I. Pediatric Cardiology

- 3 years Residency in General Pediatric accredited by PPS
- at least passed written examination for Diplomate in Pediatrics by the PPS

II. Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery

- 5 years Residency in General Surgery accredited by PCS
- must have passed certifying examination given by the PBS (Board eligible/Diplomate)
- at least qualified to take PBS certifying examination and the submission of satisfactory results of the in-service training examinations

III. Anesthesiology

- 3 years Residency in General Anesthesia accredited by PBA (Board eligible)
- pre-fellowship (except for graduates of the Philippine Heart Center Anesthesia Residency Program)

RESIDENCY (QUERT not required) fill-up application at DOH for matching (for Medical Board Passers)

I. Radiology
II. Nuclear Medicine
III. Biological and Clinical Laboratory (Pathology)

** Deadline for submission of application is on September 15, 2004*
** Academic Year 2005 starts on January 1, 2005*

General Requirements for Application for Fellowship & Residency:

1. Medical Diploma
2. Transcript of Records with the Weighted General Average
3. Itemized Board Rating
4. Three (3) Letters of Recommendation (coming from different Doctors specifically the Training Officer &/or Director of the previous training programs)
5. Four (4) pcs. 2"x2" picture colored
6. Certificate of Residency in required specialty
7. Specialty Board Certificate in required specialty

Please address your communications to:

JOSE A. YULDE, M.D.
Assistant Director
Office of Education and Research
Philippine Heart Center
East Avenue, Quezon City

For further inquiries, please contact Ms. Carmela M. Ocasion (cp# 0919-2885303) or Ms. Cleopatra Q. Palencia (cp# 0916-3021735) with Tel. Nos. 925-2401 locals 3234, 3235, 3236 & 3237 and Telefax 926-9622, or you can email to oer@phc.gov.ph

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Bacolod – (034) 435-0011 to 13 loc. 11
Davao – (082) 221-9034 to 37 loc. 402/403
CDO – (08822) 727945

Republic of the Philippines
SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM
East Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City
Tel. Nos. (632) 920-6401 • (632) 920-6446
E-mail: sssemail@info.com.ph • Web site http://www.sss.gov.ph

NOTICE

Please get in touch with the Members Assistance Center, Social Security System (SSS), East Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City or at any SSS office nearest your place of residence and file your death benefit claim within 90 days upon publication, if you are:

NAME OF BENEFICIARIES	LAST KNOWN ADDRESS	NAME OF SSS MEMBER	DATE OF DEMISE
1) Marriane Acdog	Unknown	Domingo Acdog SS # 08-0019719-7	August 4, 1995
2) Feliza Rebiriza	Bagong Bayan, Taguig, Metro Manila	Avelino D. Acebedo SS # 03-2618511-7	April 22, 2004
3) Talhata Ahmad	Sta. Catalina, Zamboanga City	Danny S. Ahmad SS # 10-0210854-3	January 21, 2004
4) Beverly Manuel Arenas	Unknown	Eugene M. Arenas SS # 02-0840491-6	May 14, 2004
5) Orlando R. Kasilag	Unknown	Clarita Argente SS # 03-2542820-2	June 8, 2004
6) Leticia Bacolor	Unknown	Teotimo E. Bacolor SS # 03-4523000-1	December 7, 2000
7) Sisinio Zabala	Barnido St., Poblacion Manbojoc, Bohol	Narcisa E. Boonggaling SS # 03-6901136-1	February 13, 2000
8) Juliet M. Burgos Jay Niño M. Burgos	13520 Hipordomo St., Cebu City	Jose B. Burgos SS # 06-0624657-2	April 1, 1998
9) Ernesto R. Cabadin	1232 C Aguila Quiapo, Manila	Ernest Ceazar M. Cabadin SS # 33-5201178-6	July 12, 2004
10) Joselina Cariaga	Santa Rosa City, Laguna	Arthur J. Cariaga SS # 03-3838789-3	December 24, 2003
11) David Coloma Marlon Coloma Joseph Coloma	Unknown	Leonides Coloma SS # 01-0419314-3	March 18, 2003
12) Nena Zamora	Naga City, Camarines Sur	Vicente de Luna SS # 03-3205014-2	February 2, 2004
13) Filomena Delos Santos	Tanza, Cavite	Reynaldo Dilag SS # 33-4218248-9	March 8, 2004
14) Federico Duarte	Unknown	Rex L. Duarte SS # 03-7551961-1	June 9, 2004
15) Soledad Geomangay	Unknown	Jose Galias SS # 03-1012126-8	November 1, 2001
16) Gloria Gumban Guillermo	Metro Manila	Eddie Guillermo SS # 07-0945911-4	July 16, 2004
17) Placida de Celis	1538 Int 17 G. Tuazon, Sampaloc, Manila	Oscar Hidalgo SS # 03-1312671-0	July 23, 2003
18) Florita Tan-Limbaga	Tripplet Rd., San Jose, Zamboanga City	Hamlet E. Limbaga SS # 10-0101176-7	June 29, 2004
19) Wilhelmina Mariano	Unknown	Roberto D. Mariano SS # 07-0843145-0	April 23, 2001
20) Elsa Mendoza	Unknown	Victor Mendoza SS # 03-1177755-6	April 20, 2003
21) Ana S. Montecalbo	Mayapa, Calamba, Laguna	Ernesto M. Montecalbo SS # 03-3451667-1	December 27, 2003
22) Gregorio Obra, Jr.	Palawan	Fremelle A. Obra SS # 33-5931419-8	July 3, 2004
23) Nelia Agonez	Unknown	Remigio Ramos SS # 01-0141513-8	May 1, 2004
24) Jesus Romero	Davao	Loreta E. Romero SS # 02-3028678-8	December 12, 2003
25) Adoracion I. Rustia	21 S. Tuazon St., Pateros, Rizal	Renato M. Rustia SS # 03-2402313-2	July 20, 2004
26) Julieta & Juanita	Unknown	Alfonso Sagun SS # 03-2014150-0	December 20, 2002
27) Yeby E. Tanada	104 Marang St., Proj. 2, Quezon City	Francisco A. Tanada SS # 03-0892799-5	July 11, 2003
28) Remedios Halira	Bo. Buray, Wright, Samar	Rufino R. Torculas SS # 03-2427123-0	May 22, 2004
29) Mercedita Trinidad	Marikina, Metro Manila	Antonio Trinidad SS # 03-4767411-5	March 22, 2004
30) Emelia Bautista Rowena Tugna Virginia Tugna	Unknown	Aquelito T. Tugna SS # 03-2194408-1	April 28, 2004

(PDI - Sept 11, 2004)

ASSET MANAGEMENT GROUP
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PNB

PUBLIC AUCTION
PANGASINAN PROPERTIES

SEPTEMBER 17, 2004 • FRIDAY • 2:00 p.m.
PANGASINAN REGENCY HOTEL
2nd Floor Green Acres
Judge Jose De Venecia, Sr. Avenue, Nalsian
Calasiao, Pangasinan

DAGUPAN CITY

LOT 1 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: 236 sqm.
Lot 24-B-29 Brgy. Lasip,Grande
Minimum Bid Price 54,000.00

LOT 2 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: 222 sqm.
Lot 24-B-32 Brgy. Lasip, Grande
Minimum Bid Price 57,000.00

LOT 3 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 239 sqm.
Lot 4 Blk 1 Bonuan Boquig
Minimum Bid Price 96,000.00

LOT 4 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 239 sqm.
Lot 5 Blk 1 Bonuan, Boquig
Minimum Bid Price 96,000.00

LOT 5 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 424 sqm.
Lot 5560-A Interior, Malued District
Minimum Bid Price 181,000.00

LOT 6 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: 750 sqm.
Lot 4 Tambac District
Minimum Bid Price 1,148,000.00

LOT 7 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area: 343 sqm.
Floor Area: 61 sqm.
Lot 4807 Lucao District
Minimum Bid Price 427,000.00

LOT 8 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 292 sqm.
Lot 6354-C Lasip Grande
Minimum Bid Price 501,000.00

LOT 9 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 403 sqm.
Lot 2-K Bonuan Boquig
Minimum Bid Price 515,000.00

LOT 10 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: 2,860 sqm.
Lot 7764 Interior,Bonuan Boquig
Minimum Bid Price 801,000.00

LOT 11 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: 2,000 sqm.
Lot 7266-B Sta Maria St., Bonuan Boquig
Minimum Bid Price 825,000.00

LOT 12 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area. 1,029 sqm.
Lot 7557-A-3 San Gabriel St Bonuan Boquig
Minimum Bid Price 834,000.00

LOT 13 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 1,028 sqm.
Lot 7557-A-4-A San Gabriel St. Bonuan Boquig
Minimum Bid Price 834,000.00

LOT 14 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 1,028 sqm.
Lot 7557-A-4-C San Gabriel St. Bonuan Boquig
Minimum Bid Price 834,000.00

LOT 15 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 1,028 sqm.
Lot 7557-A-1 San Gabriel St., Bonuan Boquig
Minimum Bid Price 834,000.00

LOT 16 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area. 1,028 sqm.
Lot 7557-A-2 San Gabriel St. Bonuan Boquig
Minimum Bid Price 834,000.00

LOT 17 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area. 1,029 sqm.
Lot 7557-A-4-B San Gabriel St. Bonuan Boquig
Minimum Bid Price 834,000.00

LOT 18 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 1,796 sqm
Lot 2-D Melendez St. Bonuan Boquig
Minimum Bid Price 1,258,000.00

LOT 19 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 412 sqm.
Floor Area: 138 sqm.
Lot 2-E, Lot 2-B, Lot 2-C, Lot 2-B Burgos-Guilig
Minimum Bid Price 1,040,000.00

LOT 20 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 413 sqm
Floor Area: 78 sqm.
Lot 4381-B Interior, Tapuac District
Minimum Bid Price 1,157,000.00

LOT 21 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 585 sqm
Lot 3811-C Interior, Careenan
Minimum Bid Price 1,495,000.00

LOT 22 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 1,034 sqm
Lot 3847-A Interior Amado-Tapuac
Minimum Bid Price 1,629,000.00

LOT 23 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 3,879 sqm.
Lot 4590 Tapuac Dist
Minimum Bid Price 4,170,000.00

LOT 24 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 1,212 sqm
Lot 4, Lot 3, Lot 2, Lot 1, Lot 6 Pogo Chico
Minimum Bid Price 1,811,000.00

BASISTA

LOT 25 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 1,601 sqm
Lot 16403-B Dumpay
Minimum Bid Price 953,000.00

LOT 26 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 6,239 sqm
Lot No. 16106, Lot No. 16107, & Lot 16108 Brgy Dumpay
Minimum Bid Price 222,000.00

CALASIAO

LOT 27 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 174 sqm.
Floor Area 68 sqm.
Lot 4390 Talibaew
Minimum Bid Price 100,000.00

LOT 28 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 495 sqm
Floor Area 218.5 sqm.
Lot 0847 Malabago
Minimum Bid Price 992,000.00

LOT 29 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 509.66 sqm.
Floor Area 116 sqm
Lot 2-G Doyong
Minimum Bid Price 430,000.00

LOT 30 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 1,362 sqm
Lot 8101-B Brgy Macabito
Minimum Bid Price 503,000.00

LOT 31 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area: 1,757 sqm.
Floor Area: 166 sqm.
Lot 7106 Longos
Minimum Bid Price 1,066,000.00

LOT 32 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area. 560 sqm.
Floor Area: 96 sqm.
Lot 5956 Brgy. Buenlag
Minimum Bid Price 513,000.00

LOT 33 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area: 2,008 sqm.
Floor Area: 110 sqm.
Lot 5 Brgy. Malabag
Minimum Bid Price 720,000.00

LOT 34 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area: 369 sqm.
Floor Area 80 sqm.
Lot 7391-B Longos
Minimum Bid Price 158,000.00

LOT 35 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area: 324.55 sqm.
Floor Area: 228 sqm.
Lot 1-16001 San Miguel
Minimum Bid Price 945,000.00

LOT 36 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 483 sqm.
L1350 Int. Mac Arthur Highway San Miguel
Minimum Bid Price 719,000.00

LOT 37 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: 792 sqm.
Lot 621-A-Lot 16039 Brgy Nalsian
Minimum Bid Price 728,000.00

LOT 38 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area. 467 sqm.
Floor Area: 90 sqm.
Lot 6729 Mancup
Minimum Bid Price 340,000.00

LOT 39 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area: 228 sqm.
Floor Area. 92 sqm.
Lot 15817-A San Miguel
Minimum Bid Price 900,000.00

LOT 40 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 1,992 sqm.
Floor Area: 207 sqm.
L16692 Brgy Macabito
Along Prov'l Rd.
Minimum Bid Price 1,444,000.00

LOT 41 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 503 sqm.
Floor Area: 141 sqm.
Lot 13346 Mancup
Minimum Bid Price 995,000.00

LOT 42 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area: 713 sqm.
Floor Area: 192 sqm.
Lot 2942 Bued
Minimum Bid Price 1,164,000.00

LOT 43 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 235 sqm
Floor Area. 111 sqm.
Lot 2941, Lot 2943 & Lot 2945 Brgy Bued
Minimum Bid Price 129,000.00

LOT 44 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 525 sqm
Lot 2731 Brgy Bued,
Minimum Bid Price 545,000.00

LOT 45 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area. 554 sqm.
Floor Area: 175 sqm.
Lot 8769-A Brgy Buenlag
Minimum Bid Price 808,000.00

LOT 46 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 901 sqm.
Floor Area. 150 sqm.
Lot 199-B Nalsian
Minimum Bid Price 1,461,000.00

LOT 47 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 222 sqm.
Floor Area 68 sqm
Lot 6469 Mancup
Minimum Bid Price 308,000.00

LOT 48 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 74 sqm
Floor Area: 81 sqm.
Lot 6915 Mancup
Minimum Bid Price 502,000.00

LOT 49 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 447 sqm
Floor Area 91 sqm.
Lot 4038-B & Lot 4038-D Sitio Pandayan, Gabon
Minimum Bid Price 297,000.00

LOT 50 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 3390 sqm
Lot 8101-A Brgy Macabito
Minimum Bid Price 1,186,000.00

LOT 51 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 2,998 sqm.
Lot 8101-C Brgy Macabito
Minimum Bid Price 1,080,000.00

MALASIQUI

LOT 52 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 761 sqm
Floor Area 50 sqm.
Lot 1953-A-1 Cabatling
Minimum Bid Price 224,000.00

LOT 53 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 215 sqm.
Lot 735-B-3 Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price 174,000.00

LOT 54 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area. 719 sqm.
Floor Area. 89 sqm.
Lot 5314-B Nalsian Sur,
Minimum Bid Price 739,000.00

LOT 55 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 617 sqm.
Floor Area: 72 sqm.
Lot 8979-C Loqueb Este
Minimum Bid Price 170,000.00

LOT 56 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area. 785 sqm.
Floor Area 105 sqm
Lot 10935-E Brgy Balite
Minimum Bid Price 338,000.00

LOT 57 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 2,628 sqm.
Floor Area. 135 sqm
Lot 5393 Tomling
Minimum Bid Price 907,000.00

LOT 58 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 3,957.33 sqm.
Lot 6509-B-6-C & Lot 6509-B-6-E Brgy Bawer
Minimum Bid Price 256,000.00

LOT 59 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area: 2,305 sqm.
Floor Area. 45 sqm.
Lot 3-A-2 Goliman
Minimum Bid Price 208,000.00

LOT 60 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area: 3,206 sqm.
Floor Area: 126 sqm.
Lot 430 Rizal St., Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price 2,531,000.00

LOT 61 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: 4,302 sqm
Lot 2462-C [illegible]
Minimum Bid Price 335,000.00

LOT 62 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: 1331 sqm
Lot 8624-L Lokeb Norte
Minimum Bid Price 170,000.00

LOT 63 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area: 505.5 sqm.
Floor Area. 138 sqm.
Lot 2946-A Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price 582,000.00

LOT 64 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area: 187 sqm.
Floor Area: 74 sqm.
Lot 730-F Poblacion(Diego Silang St.)
Minimum Bid Price 300,000.00

LOT 65 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area. 751 sqm.
Floor Area: 143 sqm.
Lot 14 (Quintas St.) Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price 1,380,000.00

LOT 66 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area: 633 sqm.
Floor Area. 150 sqm.
Lot 8232-B Tabo-Sili
Minimum Bid Price 521,000.00

LOT 67 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area. 5,120 sqm.
Lot 4643 Banawang
Minimum Bid Price 1,657,000.00

LOT 68 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: 12,651 sqm.
Lot 5599 Palong
Minimum Bid Price 709,000.00

LOT 69 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: 1,625.5 sqm.
Lot 30643-B Taloy
Minimum Bid Price 383,000.00

LOT 70 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 387 sqm.
Floor Area. 211 sqm.
Lot 8505-C Lokeb (Norte)
Minimum Bid Price 377,000.00

LOT 71 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 2274 sqm
Floor Area 57 sqm
Lot 8882-B Lokeb (Este)
Minimum Bid Price 395,000.00

LOT 72 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area: 1,055.5 sqm
Floor Area 80 sqm.
Lot 6395-A San Julian
Minimum Bid Price 282,000.00

LOT 73 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 701 sqm.
Lot 1506-F Lokeb(Norte)
Minimum Bid Price 79,000.00

LOT 74 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 360 sqm.
Floor Area 144 sqm.
L5 & L11 (Gen. Aguinaldo St) Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price 682,000.00

LOT 75 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area. 8,500 sqm
Floor Area. 56 sqm.
Lot 1-A Bacundao (West)
Minimum Bid Price 557,000.00

LOT 76 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 2697 sqm
Lot 2-A San Julian
Minimum Bid Price 448,000.00

LOT 77 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 2,173 sqm
Lot 3-G Cabeldatan
Minimum Bid Price 250,000.00

LOT 78 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area. 3,021 sqm.
Lot 3-D Cabeldatan
Minimum Bid Price 256,000.00

LOT 79 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 13,361 sqm
Lot 2 Cabeldatan
Minimum Bid Price 468,000.00

LOT 80 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 3,364 sqm.
Floor Area 108 sqm.
Lot 2 Cabeldatan
Minimum Bid Price 579,000.00

LOT 81 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 19,523 sqm
L B-16-B & L B-16-S-1 Brgy. Canan Norte
Minimum Bid Price 1,336,000.00

LOT 82 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 1,160 sqm
Floor Area. 40 sqm.
Lot 2-E Palapar (Sur)
Minimum Bid Price 114,000.00

LOT 83 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 1,872 sqm.
Lot 11045-C Bacundao (West)
Minimum Bid Price 261,000.00

LOT 84 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 4,112 sqm.
Lot 14514-E Barang (& Belawit)
Minimum Bid Price 656,000.00

LOT 85 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 930 sqm.
Floor Area 95 sqm.
Lot 7526-A Talospatang
Minimum Bid Price 425,000.00

LOT 86 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 2,451 sqm.
Floor Area. 45 sqm.
Lot 8969-B Lokeb (Este)
Minimum Bid Price 384,000.00

LOT 87 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 967 sqm.
Floor Area. 68 sqm.
Lot 8969-A Lokeb (Este)
Minimum Bid Price 289,000.00

LOT 88 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 555 sqm.
Floor Area. 117 sqm.
Lot 14514-D-1 Barang-Bolaoit
Minimum Bid Price 334,000.00

LOT 89 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: 3,698 sqm.
Lot 7561-C & Lot 7561-B Talospatang
Minimum Bid Price 141,000.00

LOT 90 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 660.8 sqm.
Floor Area: 50 sqm.
Lot 551-D Taloy
Minimum Bid Price 477,000.00

LOT 91 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 1,810 sqm
Floor Area: 198 sqm.
Lot [illegible] San Julian
Minimum Bid Price 547,000.00

LOT 92 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area [illegible]064 sqm.
Lot 6388 San Julian
Minimum Bid Price 544,000.00

MANGALDAN

LOT 93 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 198 sqm.
Lot 6 Blk. 5 Honeyland Subd., Tebag
Minimum Bid Price 189,000.00

LOT 94 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: 216 sqm
Lot 14 Blk. 5 Honeyland Subd., Tebag
Minimum Bid Price 206,000.00

LOT 95 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area. 197 sqm
Lot 2 Blk. 5 Honeyland Subd., Tebag
Minimum Bid Price 188,000.00

LOT 96 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: 198 sqm.
Lot 4 Blk. 5 Honeyland Subd., Tebag
Minimum Bid Price 189,000.00

LOT 97 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: 198 sqm.
Lot 8 Blk. 5 Honeyland Subd., Tebag
Minimum Bid Price 189,000.00

LOT 98 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 198 sqm.
Lot 10 Blk. 5 Honeyland Subd.,Tebag
Minimum Bid Price 189,000.00

LOT 99 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 159 sqm.
Lot 12 Blk. 5 Honeyland Subd., Tebag
Minimum Bid Price 152,000.00

LOT 100 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 3,022 sqm
Lot 3-E-8-H-1 Apostol Subd., Guguilonen
Minimum Bid Price 1,358,000.00

LOT 101 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 389 sqm
Lot 3-E-8-H-3-D-5-B-3 Apostol Subd.,Guguilonen
Minimum Bid Price 298,000.00

LOT 102 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 252 sqm.
Lot 29 & 28 Bo. Banaoang
Minimum Bid Price 177,000.00

LOT 103 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 132 sqm.
Lot No. 27 Bo. Banaoang
Minimum Bid Price 93,000.00

LOT 104 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 80 sqm
Lot 12 Blk. 7 Honeyland Subd.,Tebag
Minimum Bid Price 76,000.00

LOT 105 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 96 sqm
Lot 11 Blk 7 Honeyland Subd., Tebag
Minimum Bid Price 92,000.00

LOT 106 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 90 sqm
Lot 10 Blk. 7 Honeyland Subd Tebag
Minimum Bid Price 86,000.00

LOT 107 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 90 sqm
Lot 8 Blk. 7 Honeyland Subd., Tebag
Minimum Bid Price 86,000.00

LOT 108 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 90 sqm
Lot 6 Blk. 7 Honeyland Subd., Tebag
Minimum Bid Price 86,000.00

LOT 109 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 90 sqm.
Lot 5 Blk. 7 Honeyland Subd., Tebag
Minimum Bid Price 86,000.00

LOT 110 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 90 sqm.
Lot 4 Blk. 7 Honeyland Subd Tebag
Minimum Bid Price 86,000.00

LOT 111 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area. 90 sqm.
Lot 3 Blk. 7 Honeyland Subd., Tebag
Minimum Bid Price 86,000.00

LOT 112 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 70 sqm
Lot 2 Blk. 7 Honeyland Subd., Tebag
Minimum Bid Price 67,000.00

LOT 113 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 83 sqm
Lot 1 Blk. 7 Honeyland Subd., Tebag
Minimum Bid Price 79,000.00

LOT 114 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 898 sqm
Lot 7 Bari
Minimum Bid Price 802,000.00

LOT 115 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: 287 sqm
Lot 6 Blk. 4 Honeyland Subd., Tebag
Minimum Bid Price 273,000.00

LOT 116 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: 200 sqm.
Lot 3 Blk. 1 Honeyland Subd., Tebag Mangaldan,Pangasinan
Minimum Bid Price 190,000.00

LOT 117 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 200 sqm.
Lot 5 Blk. 4 Honeyland Subd., Tebag
Minimum Bid Price 190,000.00

LOT 118 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 471 sqm.
Bo. Banaoang
Minimum Bid Price 211,000.00

LOT 119 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area. 132 sqm.
Lot 9 Bo. Banaoang
Minimum Bid Price 85,000.00

LOT 120 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area. 132 sqm.
Lot 10 Bo. Banaoang
Minimum Bid Price 85,000.00

LOT 121 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 701 sqm
Bo. Banaoang
Minimum Bid Price 313,000.00

LOT 122 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: 130 sqm
Lot 8 Bo. Banaoang
Minimum Bid Price 83,000.00

LOT 123 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area. 605 sqm.
L 3,4,5 Blk. 2 Honeyland Subd., Tebag
Minimum Bid Price 516,000.00

POZZORUBIO

LOT 124 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 2649 sqm
Lot [illegible] Dila
Minimum Bid Price 497,000.00

ROSALES

LOT 125 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: 258 sqm.
Lot 2-A-7-A-2 Carmen
Minimum Bid Price 922,000.00

LOT 126 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area. 258 sqm.
Lot 2-A-7-A-3 Carmen
Minimum Bid Price 922,000.00

LOT 127 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area. 258 sqm.
Lot 2-A-7-A-4 Carmen
Minimum Bid Price 922,000.00

LOT 128 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: 258 sqm
Lot 2-A-7-A-5 Carmen
Minimum Bid Price 922,000.00

LOT 129 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 801 sqm
Lot 2-A-1 Carmen(West)
Minimum Bid Price 749,000.00

LOT 130 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 2[illegible]
Lot 12[illegible] (West)
Minimum Bid Price 40,000.00
SOLD

LOT 131 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area. 300 sqm.
Lot 2048-I-2 San Pedro(East)
Minimum Bid Price 77,000.00

SAN CARLOS CITY

LOT 132 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 1,260 sqm.
L2533-B Poblacion, Antonio Luna St.
Minimum Bid Price 486,000.00

LOT 133 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area. 1,260 sqm.
Lot 2533-F Poblacion Antonio Luna St.
Minimum Bid Price 486,000.00

LOT 134 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 408 sqm
Lot No. 1159-B-1-B Interior, Padilla St.
Minimum Bid Price 230,000.00

LOT 135 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: 5,189 sqm
Lot 13861-B Turac
Minimum Bid Price 273,000.00

LOT 136 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 676 sqm
Lot 5571-B-1 Brgy Cruz
Minimum Bid Price 229,000.00

LOT 137 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 1,570 sqm.
Lot 24242-A Bogaoan
Minimum Bid Price 223,000.00

LOT 138 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area. 1,570 sqm.
Lot 24242-B Bogaoan
Minimum Bid Price 223,000.00

LOT 139 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 1,486 sqm
Floor Area 252 sqm.
Lot 9763 Brgy Sapinit
Minimum Bid Price 1,359,000.00

SAN FABIAN

LOT 140 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area 508 sqm
Floor Area. 50 sqm.
Lot 86-B-1 Brgy Mabilao
Minimum Bid Price 102,000.00

SAN QUINTIN

LOT 141 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 300 sqm
Lot 6 Blk 3 Nangapugan
Minimum Bid Price 31,000.00

LOT 142 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area. 431 sqm
Floor Area 42 sqm.
Lot 6 Blk. 4 Nangapugan
Minimum Bid Price 56,000.00

LOT 143 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area. 308 sqm.
Lot 6 Blk 9 Nangapugan
Minimum Bid Price 32,000.00

LOT 144 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 300 sqm.
Lot 12 Blk 3 Nangapugan
Minimum Bid Price 31,000.00

LOT 145 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 300 sqm
Lot 11 Blk 3 Nangapugan
Minimum Bid Price 31,000.00

LOT 146 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 3[illegible]
Lot 16 [illegible]
Minimum Bid Price 33,000.00
SOLD

STA. BARBARA

LOT 147 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 247.5 sqm.
Lot 3 Brgy Banaoang
Minimum Bid Price 884,000.00

LOT 148 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 286.10 sqm
Lot 4-B Brgy Banaoang
Minimum Bid Price 103,000.00

LOT 149 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 7,004 sqm
Lot No 9125 Gueguesangen
Minimum Bid Price 1,314,000.00

STO. TOMAS

LOT 150 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area. 1,340 sqm.
Floor Area. 200 sqm.
L 3-B-4-K, L 3-B-1 & L 3-B-2 San Antonio
Minimum Bid Price 1,893,000.00

UMINGAN

LOT 151 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 498 sqm.
Lot 5639-Kk Prado(Concepcion)
Minimum Bid Price 26,000.00

LOT 152 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 408 sqm
Lot 7 Blk 7 Prado(Luna Este)
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 153 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: 475 sqm.
Lot 5639-XX Luna Este
Minimum Bid Price 29,000.00

LOT 154 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: 1,160 sqm.
Lot 5639-Zz Luna Este
Minimum Bid Price 70,000.00

LOT 155 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: 1,957 sqm
Lot 1 Blk. 8, Lot 2 Blk. 8, Lot 3 B9 [illegible] Lot 4 B 8 & L5 B8 Luna Este
Minimum Bid Price 70,000.00

LOT 156 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 1,160 sqm
Lot 5639-Oo (Prado)(Con.)Luna Este
Minimum Bid Price 70,000.00

LOT 157 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: 1,791 sqm
Lot 5639-Bbb-6, Lot 5639-Bbb-7 Lot 5639-Bbb-8,& Lot 5639-Bbb-9
Luna Este
Minimum Bid Price 74,000.00

LOT 158 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: 1,114 sqm
L5639-Tt (Prado) (Concepcion) Luna Este
Minimum Bid Price 67,000.00

LOT 159 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: 1,160 sqm
Lot 5639-Yy Luna Este
Minimum Bid Price 70,000.00

LOT 160 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: 447 sqm.
Lot 5639-V(Prado)(Concepcion) Luna Este
Minimum Bid Price 19,000.00

LOT 161 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 447 sqm
Lot 5639-J Luna Este
Minimum Bid Price 22,000.00

LOT 162 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: 416 sqm.
Lot 1 Blk. 9 Luna Este
Minimum Bid Price 25,000.00

LOT 163 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: 973 sqm.
Lot 5 Blk. 3 & Lot 6 Blk 3 Prado
Minimum Bid Price 35,000.00

LOT 164 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: 401 sqm
Lot 5 Blk. 4 Luna Este
Minimum Bid Price 20,000.00

LOT 165 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: 475 sqm.
Lot 5639-Uu Luna Este
Minimum Bid Price 29,000.00

LOT 166 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 475 sqm.
Lot 5639-Hh Luna Este
Minimum Bid Price 33,000.00

LOT 167 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: 1,200 sqm.
Lot 9 Blk. 1, Lot 10 Blk. 1 & Lot 11
Blk. 1 Luna Este
Minimum Bid Price 43,000.00

LOT 168 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area. 420 sqm.
Lot 5639-Bbb Luna Este
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 169 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area. 800 sqm.
Lot 4 Blk. 1 & Lot 2 Blk 1 Luna Este
Minimum Bid Price 41,000.00

LOT 170 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 417 sqm
Lot 5639-Bbb-4 Luna Este
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 171 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area. 557 sqm
Lot 5639-A & Lot 5639-Aaa Luna Este
Minimum Bid Price 34,000.00

LOT 172 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 1,359 sqm
Lot 5639-Bbb 13, Lot 5639-Bbb 14 & Lot 5639-Bbb 15 Luna Este
Minimum Bid Price 58,000.00

LOT 173 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 1,160 sqm.
Lot 5639-Nn (Prado-Concepcion-Belarei) Luna Este
Minimum Bid Price 70,000.00

LOT 174 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 395 sqm
Lot 3 Blk. 9 Luna Este
Minimum Bid Price 21,000.00

LOT 175 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 395 sqm.
Lot 4 Blk. 9 Luna Este
Minimum Bid Price 21,000.00

LOT 176 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 395 sqm.
Lot 5 Blk. 9 Luna Este
Minimum Bid Price 21,000.00

LOT 177 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 395 sqm
Lot 6 Blk. 9 Luna Este
Minimum Bid Price 21,000.00

LOT 178 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 379 sqm
Lot 1 Blk. 2 Luna Este
Minimum Bid Price 20,000.00

VILLASIS

LOT 179 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 202 sqm
Lot 17 Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price 207,000.00

LOT 180 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 1,000 sqm
Lot 5445-B-5-B San Nicolas
Minimum Bid Price 255,000.00

LOT 181 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 1,000 sqm
Lot 5445-B-5-A San Nicolas
Minimum Bid Price 255,000.00

LOT 182 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area 415 sqm
Lot 4-A & Lot 4-C-3 Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price 530,000.00

GUARANTEED FINANCING • FIXED INTEREST UP TO 10 YEARS • 10% DOWNPAYMENT FOR LOTS • 25% DOWNPAYMENT FOR DEVELOPED PROPERTIES
ALL PROPERTIES FOR SALE ARE ON AN "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS". PROPERTIES AND PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGES WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

SHOW MONEY: PhP25,000.00 CASH or MC •PLEASE CONFIRM ATTENDANCE TO ENSURE SEATS AND PARKING

PLEASE CALL CBRE: Tel. no. (02) 759-2334; (02)752-2580 • DOMESTIC TOLL FREE NO. 1-800-10-555-8888
Early 0918-9306721 • Jane 0920-9274824 • Don 0920-9216150 • Mike 0917-5260614
Jibong 0922-8042496 • Dennis 0921-7138545 • Marlyn (075) 515 5242 • Eleodoro (075) 522 9752

CBRE
CB RICHARD ELLIS
AUCTION MANAGER

BOHOL I ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.
Maca-as, Tubigon, BOHOL
Fax No. (038) 508-8095, Tel. No. (038) 508-0084 to 85

INVITATION FOR BIDS NO. 15

The BOHOL I ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. (BOHECO-I) intends to procure kilowatt hour meters for massive replacement of old kilowatt hour meters to consumers in our coverage area funded by the five percent (5%) reinvestment fund, as follows:

LOT I – ELECTRONIC SINGLE PHASE KILOWATT-HOUR METER (For Consignment Basis)
Mechanical Display, Single Phase, Two Wire, 10(60)A, 240 volts, 60 Hertz. – 5,000 Pieces

LOT 2 – KILOWATT-HOUR METER, Single Phase, Two Wire, Class 100, 240 Volts, Type F-72, G.E. – 500 Pieces

Opening of sealed Bid will be on October 6, 2004, 2:30 PM at BOHECO I Main Office Board Room in Maca-as, Tubigon, Bohol. Said proposal would be open and read in the presence of bidders or their representative who choose to attend.

Interested bidders may obtain information and secure list of bidding documents from BOHECO-I Main Office upon payment of non-refundable fee of One Thousand and Two Hundred Pesos (P1,200.00).

(Sgd.) CARLOS B. ITABLE
General Manager

(PDI - September 11, 2004)

GIA

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Our Dearly Beloved Mommy

Eleanor Asistores Espaldon

Peacefully joined her Creator
on September 1, 2004 in Galveston, Texas.

Her loving husband **Amb. Romulo M. Espaldon**; children **Romelea** & **Morsidy**, **Grace** & **Andrew**, **Romulo Jr.** & **Migzilou**, **Cheryl** & **Caesar**, **Arleigh** & **Curie**, and **Sherwin** & **Linda**; grandchildren, brothers & sisters, nephews & nieces, and other relatives request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the Jose Rizal Chapel, La Funeraria Paz, Manila Memorial Park, Dr. A. Santos Avenue, Sucat, Parañaque City.

Mass will be celebrated on September 14, 2004 at six thirty in the evening.

Interment at the Manila Memorial Park, Parañaque City will be on September 15, 2004 at eleven o'clock in the morning.

ELISA BOLLOZOS FELICIANO

of Malaybalay City, Bukidnon

Peacefully joined our Lord on September 7, 2004
at the age of 88 at Oakville, Ontario, Canada.

Beloved wife of the late **Dr. Fausto L. Feliciano**, adored mother of **Madeleine F. Trespeces**, **Wendell**, **Lionell**, **Marjorie F. Roco** (†) and **PSupt Rondell Feliciano**.

Survived by sisters **Pacita**, **Editha**, **Caridad** and brothers **Napoleon**, **Ramon** and **Virgilio**.

Dear sister of the late **Rizalina**, **Virgina**, **Esperanza**, **Vicente** and **Orlando**.

Dear mother-in-law of **Col. Alejandro B. Trespeces Jr.**, **Eduardo S. Roco**, **Ava Murillo**, **Lolita Quiling** and **Charlene Quiñones**.

She will be sadly missed by her grandchildren in Canada, U.S., and the Philippines particularly **Charmagne** and **Michael Fianza**, **2Lt Alejandro F. Trespeces III** and **Wyxie Carolina**, **Pelnell**, **Darell**, **Rowell**, **Madel**, **Rondell Jr.** and **Rosalie Manalaysay**, **Roselle**, **Charles**, **Karen**, **Lorraine**, **Charisse**, **Katrina** and **Kristine Feliciano** and **Marisse F. Roco**.

Fondly remembered by many relatives, friends and great grandchildren particularly **Jose Miguel** and **Luis Miguel Fianza**, **Bea** and **Jana Trespeces**, **Reeza** and **Izhi Feliciano**.

Interment will be on September 11, 2004 at Oakville Ontario, Canada.

Our Dearly Beloved

ARACELI S. BRION

Retired School Supervisor and
College Instructress of San Pablo City

Peacefully joined our Lord
last Monday, September 6, 2004 at the age of 80.

Her brothers and sisters **Dominador** (†), **Lina**, **Atty. Romulo** (†), **Plenio Sr.** (†), **Carmelita** and **Nonilon**; brother-in-law **Simplicio Ramos**; sisters-in-law **Aurora**, **Imelda** and **Evangeline**; nephews, nieces and other relatives request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the Resurrection Chapel at San Pablo City.

Interment will be today, September 11, 2004 immediately after the 2:00 p.m. Mass at San Pablo Public Cemetery.

In Loving Memory
of our Dearly Beloved

FRANCISCA FADERAN BAGASAO

of Paoay, Ilocos Norte and Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija

Widow of the late Judge Agustin C. Bagasao

Died in the Grace of the Lord on 10 September 2004
at the age of 89 in Cabanatuan City.

Mommy is survived and will be deeply missed by her children, **Ding** and **Bai**, **Titos** and **Lolet**, **Ida May**, **Maria Fides**, **Vicky** and **Helen**; grandchildren **Gabbie**, **Bogey**, **Ana**, **Miguel** and **Jill**; sisters **Remedios Plan** and **Prudencia Pobre**, brother **Nemesio Jr.**; sister in law **Salud Duque** and brother in law **Felizardo del Pilar**.

Her remains lie in state at the family residence in Ma. Teresa Subdivision, Cabanatuan City.

Interment and other details will be announced shortly.

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life."
John 3:16

TRIFENA GICOLE GARGOLES

Died on Sept. 2, 2004 at the age of 85.

Her loving husband **Aaron G. Gargoles**;
Children **Hector** & **Sonia**, **Elsie**, **Ferdinand**;
Grandchildren **Kenn Bernard**, **Hector Jr.**;
relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her body lies in state
at their ancestral home in Tapaz, Capiz.

Interment will be on Monday,
September 13, 2004, 9:00 a.m.
at Tapaz Parish Church.

The Augustinian Sisters of Our Lady of Consolation

Beg you to recommend to God
in your prayers and sacrifices the soul of our dear

SISTER TERESITA AVISO VILLALUZ, OSA

(Teresa Villaluz)

who passed away on September 10, 2004 at the age of 74.

May she rest in Peace!

FUNERAL MASS WILL BE ON
September 13, 2004 at 8:00 a.m. at the La Consolacion Convent Chapel, 273 Santolan Road, San Juan, Metro Manila.
Interment will follow at the La Loma Cemetery immediately after Mass.

We design OBITUARIES for free.

DON HENRY SY GAISANO

Peacefully joined the Lord on September 8, 2004 at the age of 85

SPOUSES:

FRANCESCA NGOCHUA+ • VALERIA NGOCHUA +

CHILDREN:

BENITO & GINA GAISANO • EDDIE & JUDY GAISANO
AMELIA GAISANO & SIMON GO • ROSALIE S. GAISANO+

HIS BROTHERS & SISTERS:

DAVID+ • STEPHEN • VICTOR+ • JOHN+
PIAN PIAN+ • KAM KAM+ • ENG ENG • YAN YAN+
CHING CHING • ESTER

GRANDCHILDREN:

GERALDINE APRIL & ALFIE ANGGALA • GENEVIEVE ANNE & RYAN BERNARD GO
MATTHEW NICOLAS G. GO • HENRY S. GAISANO II • ANGELI SUZY G. GO
VALERIE & GLENN SEBASTIAN • BARBARA GAIL U. GAISANO • JULIE CHRISTINE G. GO
EDA FRANCES S. GAISANO • GLADYS JOY U. GAISANO • GLENDA MAE U. GAISANO
EDMUND S. GAISANO, JR.

GREAT GRANDCHILDREN:

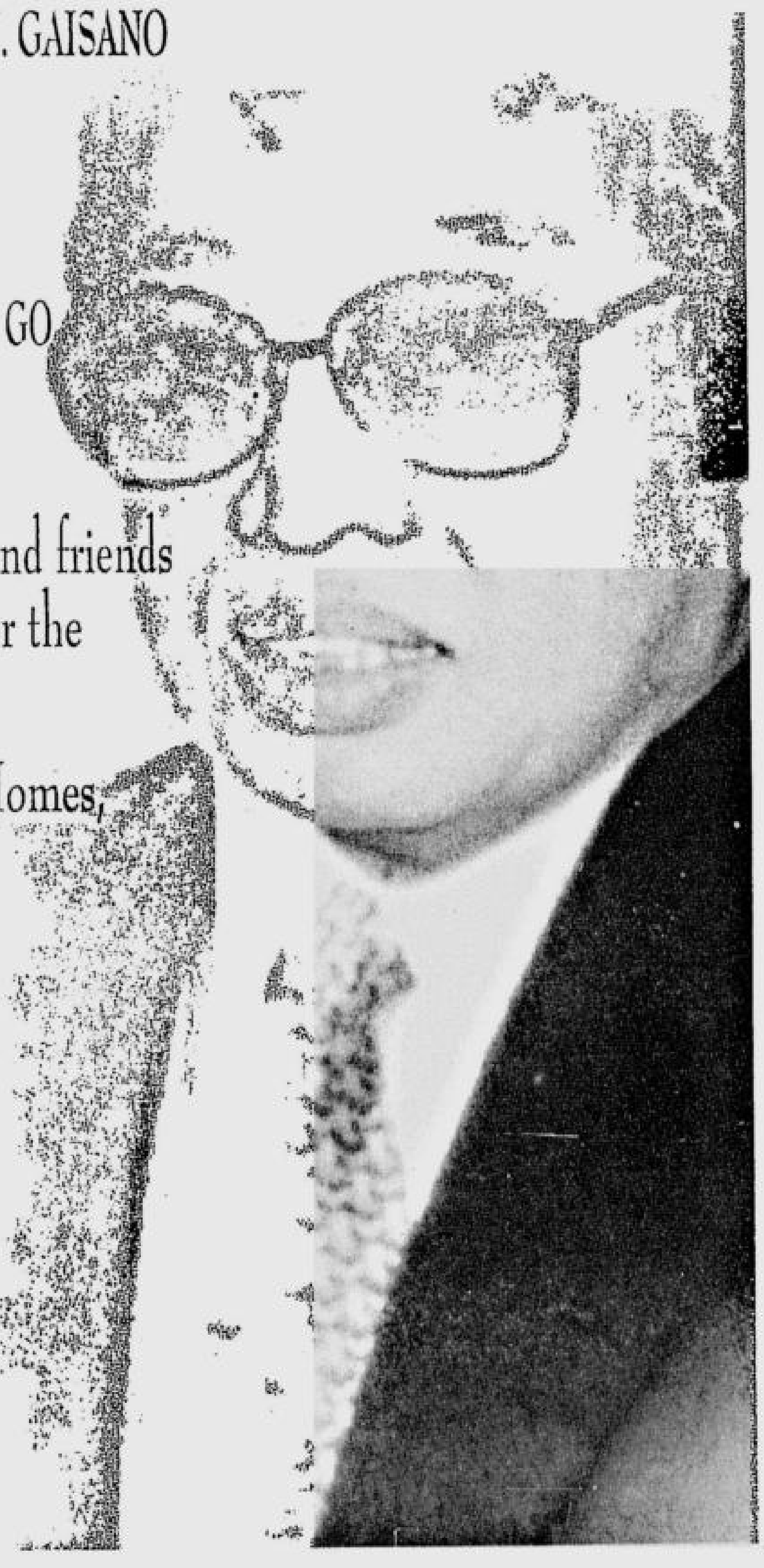
BENRICK RYAN G. GO • FRANCINE BIANCA G. GO • KYLA DOMINIQUE G. GO

And all his brothers and sisters-in-law, nephews and nieces, relatives and friends request everyone whose lives he touched to join us in praying for the eternal repose of his soul.

His mortal remains lie in state at the Cosmopolitan Funeral Homes, Nivel Hills, Lahug, Cebu City.

Cremation will be on September 14, 2004 after the celebration of the Holy Mass at 8:00 A.M.

(Please omit flowers.)



"Pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us."
Psalm 62:8

LIGAYA RIVERA RILLO

of Quezon City

Peacefully joined her Creator and husband BEN
on September 09, 2004 at the age of 80.

Her bereaved children **Benjie, Bobby, Jojo** and **Diane**; grandchildren **Jodian, Jodine** and **Jenzel**; sisters **Dra. Lualhati Paguio, Dalisay Afable** and **Luningning**; brother **Pedro**; in-laws, nephews, nieces, other relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Shrine Parish, Doña Juana Rodriguez Avenue (Broadway), New Manila, Quezon City.

Cremation will follow after the 9:30 a.m. Mass (Mt. Carmel) on Monday, September 13, 2004 at the La Funeraria Paz Crematory.

In Loving Memory of the
Third Death Anniversary of

RUFINO C.F. (ROY) SANTOS III

Who passed away on September 11, 2001
at the WTC, New York, NY

Holy Masses will be offered at the following churches:

St. Andrew the Apostle Parish .... *N., Garcia St., Bel-Air, Makati City*	6:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.
The National Shrine of the Sacred Heart ..... *Dao, San Antonio Village, Makati City*	7:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m.
Santuario de San Antonio Parish .... *Forbes Park, Makati City*	7:30 a.m., 4:30 p.m. & 6:00 p.m.
St. John Bosco Parish .... *Arnaiz St., Makati City*	7:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
San Pedro Parish Church .... *San Pedro, Laguna*	6:00 a.m.
San Guillermo Parish Church .... *Buting, Pasig City*	6:00 p.m.
St. Roque Parish Church .... *Pateros, Metro Manila*	6:00 p.m.

Holy Masses will also be offered at St. Patrick Cathedral, New York, NY, St. Vincent de Ferrer Church, 868 Lexington, New York, St. Thomas More Church, Alhambra, CA, Holy Rosary Cathedral, Vancouver, B.C., Canada & St. Paul Parish, Richmond, B.C., Canada

His family requests relatives and friends to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

"I can do all things in Him who strengthens me."

Our Dearly Beloved

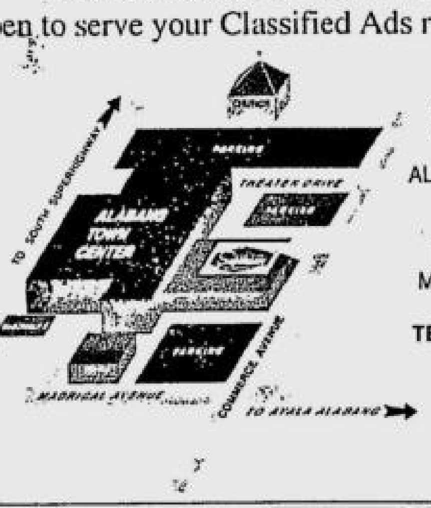
Araceli "Cely" Adalla Rivera

Now peacefully rests in the infinite Grace & Goodness of the Lord on the 8th day of September 2004 at the age of 74.

She is survived by her husband **Fred**; children **Kuyang, Jinggoy & Lyn, Junjo & Bing, Nong & Irene, Neng & Ricky, Chi-Chi & Tutut**, and **Mark**; grandchildren **Mobbie, Chax, Renci, Tyrone, Tutchi, Jinggay, Ryle, Chito, Kyle, Lucy, Chia**, and **Nong-Nong** request prayers for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the Arlington Memorial Chapels,
12 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Sunday, September 12, 2004 at
Eternal Gardens Memorial Park immediately after the 9:00 a.m. Mass.



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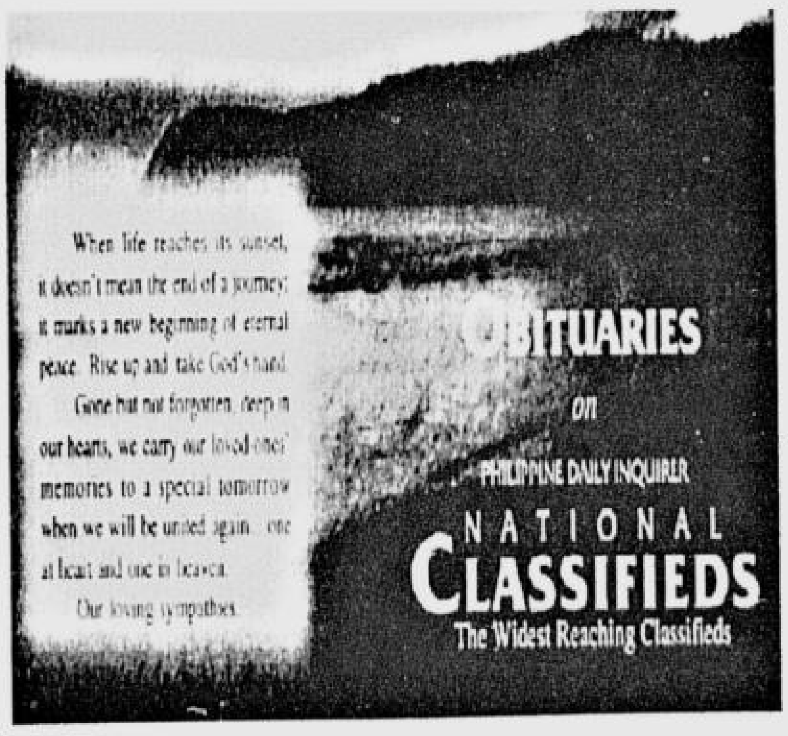
When life reaches its sunset, it doesn't mean the end of a journey; it marks a new beginning of eternal peace. Rise up and take God's hand.

Gone but not forgotten, deep in our hearts, we carry our loved ones' memories to a special tomorrow when we will be united again... one at heart and one in heaven.

Our loving sympathies.

OBITUARIES on PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER NATIONAL CLASSIFIEDS
The Widest Reaching Classifieds

RENATO N. PULIDO

Peacefully joined our Creator on September 8, 2004 at the age of 58.

His wife **Erlinda**; children **Arvie, Manuel, Arlene** and **Ronald**; mother **Paz**; sister **Olive**; brothers **Rico** and **Deo**; sisters-in-law **Nini** and **Ophel**; nephews and nieces **Eugene, Shermaine, Ma. Teresa** and **Dexter**; grandchild **Ivan** and relatives request the pious readers to pray for the eternal rest of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the Arlington Memorial Chapels,12 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Sunday, September 12, 2004 at the Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina City, after the 8:00 a.m. Mass at Arlington Memorial Chapels.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

CLASSIFIEDS

Philippine Open Source Conference 2004

THE SIGNIFICANCE and benefits of open source were highlighted during the recently-held Philippine Open Source Conference 2004, which sought to raise the country's level of awareness of open source as a feasible alternative to proprietary software.

Dwelling on the theme "Open source goes mainstream", the successful event was held last Aug. 17-19 at the EDSA Shangri-La Plaza Hotel in Mandaluyong City where around 600 delegates converge to attend track sessions on Business Applications, Telecoms/ Networking/Security, and Programming/ Advocacy, including hands-on sessions, tutorials, open forums and product demonstrations.

Described as the "biggest open source event in the country," the three-day conference organized by Media G8way Corporation (MGC) in cooperation with Imperium Technologies Inc. also featured executive sessions that gathered C Level executives for the discussion with open source experts, and a bonus track session that focused on the social and political implications of free and open source software (FOSS).

The next conference, whose updates will be posted at www.philsoc.com, will be held either in April or May 2005.

This year's event was sponsored by Intel Philippines, Microsoft Developer Network, and SuSE@Novell as diamond sponsors; HP Philippines, myDSL, and Supermicro as gold sponsors; and American Technologies Inc., Chase Technologies Corporation, Computer Associates, emic Networks, Netopia Internet Café, QLinux Solutions Inc. and Red Hat as silver sponsors.

Open S2 was the official Web content manager, while Computerworld Philippines, Enterprise, PC World Philippines, Fast Forward, 94.7 Mellow Touch, **Philippine Daily Inquirer** and Web Philippines Inc. were the official media sponsors.

Festivities for Our Blessed Virgin of Peñafrancia

THE PEÑAFRANCIA Devotees Association of Metro Manila, headed by it president, Dr. Charito Prieto-Felipe, is inviting everyone to the Annual Metro Manila Festivities in celebration of the Feast of the Virgin of Peñafrancia, our Beloved "Ina", the miraculous Patroness of the Bicol Region. Join the Triduum of novena prayers and masses for "Ina" at the St. Andrew the Apostle Church at Nicanor Garcia St. (Reposo St.) Bel-Air Makati, every 6 p.m. on Sept. 9, 10, and 11. Bring your petitions to our Mother for Her loving intercession. Join the traditional Peñafrancia Fluvial Procession along the Pasig River on Sept. 12, Sunday at 4 p.m. from the Hospicio de San Jose, Ayala Bridge, our embarkation point, to Jones Bridge. Experience this centuries-old tradition. Highlight of the festivities will be a Solemn Concelebrated High Mass, led by Bishop Nestor Cariño, at the Manila Cathedral on Sept 12, Sunday at 6 p.m. Let us honor "Ina" with our presence and our prayers. Please join us and experience the loving intercession of "Ina" for us. For inquiries, call the Peñafrancia Devotees Association's Secretariat at 531-5177, 531-9430, 531-5906 and 531-6158.

SCIENCE/HEALTH

E-mail: pr_science_health@inquirer.com.ph

Editor **Cesar D. Mangawang**
Assistant Editor **Stella O. Gonzales**

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FOR LOVE OF SCIENCE

Researchers put their lives on the line

By Tessa R. Salazar

When Fely V. Velandria, 61, a Food Nutrition and Research Institute (FNRI) supervising research specialist, conducted a survey in Daet, Camarines Norte, she got bitten by a dog. She had to get anti-rabies shots when she learned that the dog had died.

FNRI medical technologist and data analyst Charmaine A. Duante, 44, had a cesarian section in April 1998. Five months later, while in Bicol for some fieldwork, she contracted yeast infection because she was using unsanitary restrooms and sources of water. Despite the discomfort she was feeling, she still went to Tarlac and to Rizal for more fieldwork.

Supervisor-nutritionist Belen M. Tangco, 47, and a colleague once had to trudge across a waist-deep murky river in Sibalom, Antique, because they could not get a truck to carry them.

And once, Tangco and another female colleague had to take an open outrigger boat to cross the sea from Ivana to Sabtang in Batanes. Waves as big as houses nearly overturned the boat. The two researchers made it, albeit wet and shivering from the terrifying experience.

Nutrition marshals

FNRI's "field marshals" like Velandria, Duante and Tangco monitor major nutritional problems such as protein energy malnutrition, vitamin A deficiency, anemia and goiter in the country's 78 provinces and 18 regions.

From the survey results, the FNRI recommends measures, interventions and policies for government and nongovernment agencies to solve malnutrition and other health problems.

The FNRI assesses the nutritional status of the population every two and five years.

The five-year survey monitors the impact of the programs of the government and private agencies regarding nutrition.

The two-year survey involves the groups vulnerable to malnutrition: preschool children and pregnant and lactating women.

Both surveys entail tortuous field work by FNRI's researchers.

Work starts at 3 a.m.

The FNRI teams usually start the day at 3 a.m., collecting blood samples from people who need to work in the fields, mountains and seas before dawn breaks. The blood samples must be extracted before the respondents take their breakfast.

Researchers must also stay in the house of the respondents so they could note the households' food consumption levels. They must weigh the ingredients for the meals before they are cooked; they also weigh the leftovers. The observations cover all meals.

Members of the sample households also undergo physical examination.

For the researchers, this routine is simple. The "real" stories happen on their way to the remote barangays and back.

Equipment comes first

Duante recalled an incident in November 1998 when she fell from a motorcycle while on the way to conduct a nutrition survey in Southern Leyte. She injured her leg, but she is proud to say that she was able to save a highly sensitive Cholestech machine she was then holding. The machine, which costs between P10,000 and P20,000, calculates blood lipid and sugar levels.

A week after the incident, she was assigned to Tarlac. She was only forced to stop work to seek treatment when the pain in her leg became unbearable.

SCIENCE researchers use all available modes of transportation, even this raft made of bamboo, to get to their places of assignment.

RESEARCHERS of the Food and Nutrition Research Institute travel on foot to reach a remote barangay.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF FNRI

Said Velandria: "Some of us get sick because we sleep for only four hours. We stay in a survey area for three to four days and then move on to another place. We do this for six months."

In 1993, Duante and her team stayed in a Marine barracks in Tawi-Tawi. One day, they heard gunfire and everyone dived to the floor, praying and quivering in fear.

"We were so nervous. I thought it would be my last assignment," Duante recalled.

"Then we found out that there was a lunar eclipse and the people were firing guns to drive away evil spirits."

In 1998, a team of researchers could not leave Sulu because of constant gunfights in the area. When a terrified team member asked if they should push through with the survey, Velandria replied: "If there's a shootout, don't get out [of the provincial hospital]. Just duck."

Valendria said the researchers were able to finish the survey with the help of a military escort.

While their trips to remote barangays expose them to dangerous situations, these also allow them a glimpse into the kindness of rural folk.

"People are good. In Lanao del Norte, for instance, we were allowed to use the battery of a truck for electricity so we could edit and tabulate our work at night," Velandria said.

She said they don't really mind the dangers of their work. After all, she said, they do this for love of research and country.

For women in life science

EUREKA!

Queena N. Lee-Chua

SCIENCE cannot exist in a vacuum. In today's world, where research cuts across nations, gender and disciplines, active collaboration among the academe, business and government is essential.

For the past six years, the cosmetics company L'Oréal has tied up with Unesco for the "For Women in Science" project to recognize the work of almost 100 outstanding women scientists from 45 countries to date, support their research, and raise their profile globally.

Last March, the latest batch of Award Laureates, one from each continent, was honored in Paris. Each laureate received $100,000. They come from cutting-edge fields in the life sciences, such as T-cell research, agricultural productivity, neuroscience, genetics and parasitic disease.

Jennifer Thomson (South Africa) works on transgenic plants resistant to viral infections and drought. Nancy Ip (China) studies the synapses and processes of the nervous system. Christine Petit (France) researches on genetic defects in deafness and other sensory disorders. Lucia Mendonça Previato (Brazil) works to treat and prevent Chagas disease. Philippa Marrack (USA) delves into immunity and super-antigens.

They were chosen by an international jury of 15 eminent members of the scientific community led by Christian de Duve, Nobel Prize in Medicine awardee and founding president of the awards.

Fellowships

Aside from the laureates, 15 promising young women (at most 35 years old), three from each continent, were given grants of $20,000 each for high-level research projects to be conducted outside their country of origin. They were chosen by the Fellowship Selection Committee in Paris from a list of candidates proposed by Unesco national commissions.

The roster of fellowships gladdens my heart, for they represent science done in a truly diverse world: microbiology (Mauritius, Yemen, Indonesia), virology (Nigeria), marine biology (U. R. of Tanzania), chemistry (Lebanon, Pakistan), biotechnology (Syrian Arab Republic), medicine (New Zealand, Romania), molecular biology (Croatia, Turkey), ecology (Argentina), developmental biology (Mexico) and cellular biology (Venezuela).

Why focus on young women scientists? Although I have not personally felt in my profession (mathematics) any stigma arising from gender, international research reveal that women are underrepresented in science, and that women scientists receive less support and fewer promotions than their male colleagues.

A recent Unesco Institute of Statistics study reveals that in New Zealand and Japan, only 15 percent and 18 percent, respectively, of science postgraduates are women. (The best news comes from South America, where the percentages are 59 percent and 60 percent for Argentina and El Salvador, respectively.)

In 2001, the European Commission noted that women made up less than seven percent of professors and five percent of academy members in Europe.

In 2002, the Greenfield Report commissioned by the British government reported that fewer than 10 percent of senior research positions in any country are held by women.

Wealth of women talent

How about the Philippines? Discrimination against women in science may not be as rampant (although I don't have data to back this up), but then again, our scientists often creatively toil in adverse conditions.

Our country has not yet won any of the above grants or awards, but with our wealth of women talent in the biological sciences, I don't see why this trend cannot be reversed.

Application forms can be downloaded from the site www.forwomeninscience.com. Click on fellowships, then selection process, then candidate applications. Deadline for submission of applications is Sept. 15. For inquiries, call or e-mail Leica Carpo, L'Oréal public relations manager, at 632-0280 local 103 or lcarpo@ph.loreal.com.

Although L'Oréal is best known for its cosmetics, it relies heavily on R & D, with almost 3,000 people working in 14 research centers in France, Asia and America, focusing on studies about antioxidants in skin care, characteristics of Asian and African hair, optics in makeup, among others. More than half of their scientists are women—more than any other company in the industry.

As for Unesco, it has helped design science curriculums specifically for girls, and has set up academic linkages among women scientists around the world. Currently, it strives to measure women's access to science training to develop appropriate policies in its member-nations.

KIDS' QUIZ WEEK 6

Builder's choice

A lot of materials are needed to build the structures—houses, buildings, condominium, bridges, etc.—around us. It would be interesting to know the people who invented such construction materials. Match the kind of construction material on the left with the name of its inventor on the right.

Dianne M. Villafuerte

Construction material
1. nail
2. screw
3. wire
4. barbed wire
5. drywall
6. paint
7. concrete
8. cement
9. steel
10. paint roller

Inventor
a) Augustine Sackett and Fred L. Kane
b) Sir Henry Bessemer
c) Alvin J. Fellows
d) Romans
e) Joseph Aspdin
f) Michael Kelly
g) Rudolf of Nuremberg
h) early Chinese and Egyptian artisans
i) Norman Breakey
j) John Smeaton
k) Archimedes

ANSWERS to last week's quiz: 1-f, 2-j, 3-d, 4-a, 5-i, 6-k, 7-b, 8-c, 9-h, 10-g

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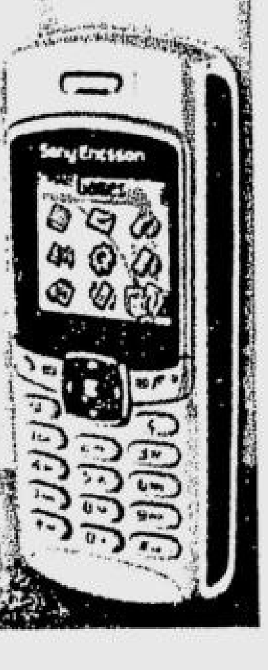


Aloe can help the body breathe

DISCOVER

Massie Santos Ballon

THERE used to be an aloe vera plant in the front yard of our house. If we were spattered by hot oil from the frying pan, we were sent out to pluck a leaf of the aloe vera and rub the sap on the burn to soothe the pain.

Now Mitchell Fink, chair of the Department of Critical Care Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, and his colleagues from the McGowan Institute for Regenerative Medicine have found a way to use aloe to save lives.

Every day, somewhere in the world a gun goes off or a car crashes into a solid, immovable object and someone suffers extreme blood loss. Many deaths result from the inability to get the patient the necessary medical care during the so-called "golden hour."

Hemorrhagic shock occurs when the body has lost too much blood too quickly—even with blood transfusions—for oxygen to reach the organs, resulting in shock and triggering a host of life-threatening conditions.

Controlling hemorrhage

In the August issue of the journal Shock, Fink and his colleagues talk about the possibility of saving more lives by controlling hemorrhaging through the use of a substance extracted from aloe vera.

The extract contains a drag-reducing polymer (DRP) obtained from the sap of aloe leaves. The substance's name is derived from its ability to lower a liquid's resistance to rapid movement when added in small doses.

DRPs have been used in fire hoses to make the water shoot out farther and in oil pipelines to make the oil flow more smoothly. They have been considered in submarine designs to make the vessels move more stealthily underwater.

Marina Kameneva, one of the study's coauthors and director of the Artificial Blood Program at the McGowan Institute, said DRP might provide better diffusion of oxygen molecules from red blood cells to tissues because of its ability to better mix into the plasma surrounding the red blood cells.

In the human body, a thin layer of blood plasma keeps the red blood cells away from the blood vessel walls. When DRP is added to the bloodstream, the plasma layer becomes even thinner, allowing the red blood cells to move closer to the walls of the blood vessels. This stimulates production of nitric oxide, allowing the vessels to dilate and making the exchange of gases such as oxygen easier between the carriers.

So while DRP may not prevent blood loss, it could theoretically keep the oxygen flowing to the vital organs, thus preventing hemorrhagic shock.

Fink et al. conducted several experiments to test their theories about DRP's usefulness.

In one study, 20 rats were subjected to pressurized conditions equivalent to being over 25,000 feet in the air. Half of the rats received a saline injection containing a small amount of DRP while the other 10, which became the control group, were given an injection of pure saline solution.

About half an hour into the experiment, five of the rats in the control group were dead due to low oxygen levels in their bloodstreams. In contrast, four hours after hemorrhagic shock had set in, eight of the 10 rats who had received the DRP-laced injection were still alive.

Viable solution

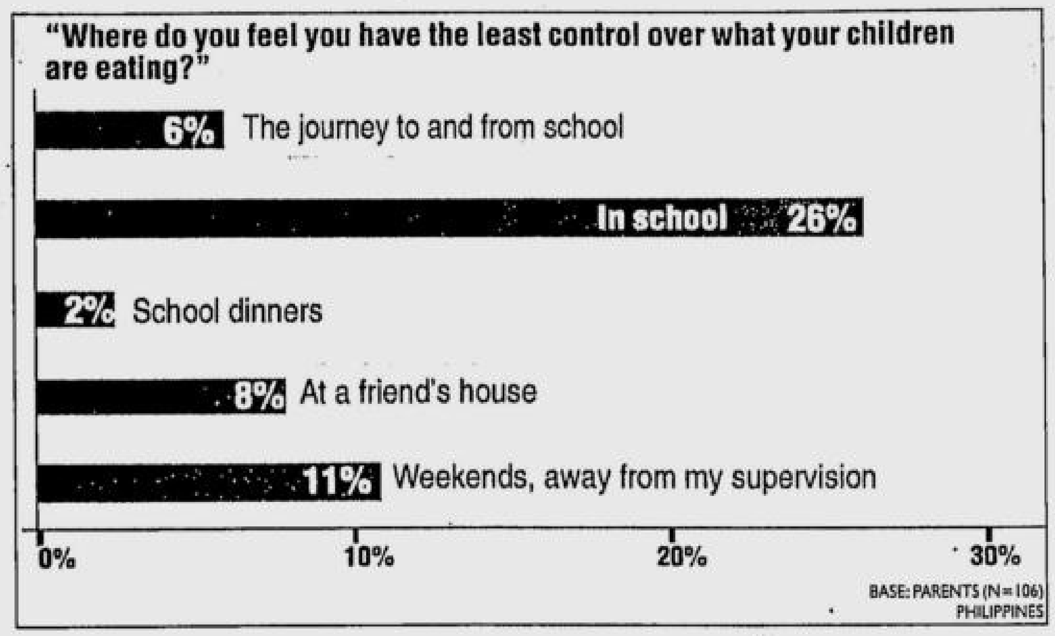
The results backed Kameneva's assertion of DRP's properties. The aloe vera extract doesn't stop the flow of blood, but it does increase the amount of oxygen moving in the bloodstream so hemorrhagic shock is prevented.

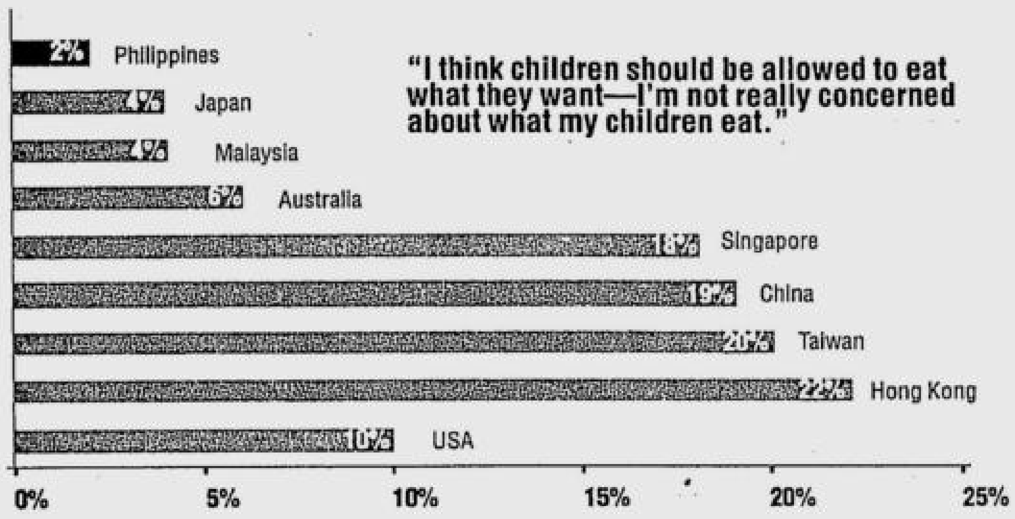
"We hope this fluid will offer a viable solution to a significant problem, both on and off the battlefield," Dr. Fink said in a press statement. "Medics would only need a small amount of this solution, which could feasibly be administered before the soldier [or patient] is evacuated to a medical unit or facility."

For DRP to become a part of every emergency technician's field kit though, the sequence of polysaccharides which make up the aloe-extracted DRP must first be identified. Next, the substance must be tested further on animals to determine its safety before it can be tested on humans. And finally, the researchers need a company willing to fund the research necessary to get DRP out of the lab and into medical kits.

All this should take a decade or so, which gives people plenty of time to come up with a catchy brand name for the end product. Will the name contain a "q," "z," "y" or "x" like so many drugs today? We'll just have to wait and see.

Rising levels of obesity in Philippines blamed on individuals, says survey





INDIVIDUALS and to a certain extent parents, more than fast-food companies or food retailers, are to blame for the increasing rate of obesity in the Philippines, according to a global study undertaken by one of Asia Pacific's largest media specialist agencies, Universal McCann.

In the survey commissioned to find out peoples' attitudes on the causes of obesity, Filipinos overwhelmingly feel that controlling obesity is a matter of personal action and that they are not blaming government or food suppliers for the increased prevalence of obesity.

What causes obesity?

However, Filipinos are evenly split on the question of what causes obesity. About half (46 percent) said that eating too much was the cause of obesity, while 53 percent said lack of exercise was responsible for obesity.

The study focuses on the challenge for parents to manage the quality and quantity of food their children eat at home, in school and other locations outside of the home. Twenty-six percent of Filipino parents said they have least control over their children's eating habits in the school environment.

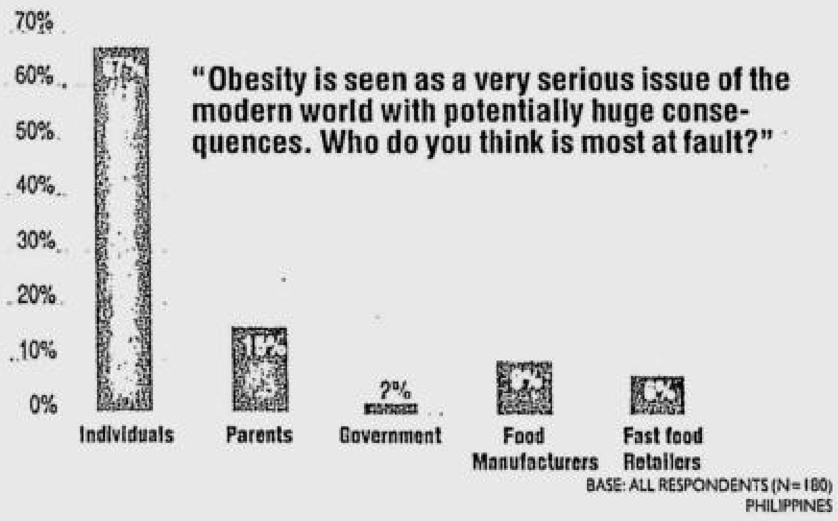
While children's nutritional diet is a major issue for all parents, there is considerable regional variation in attitudes to allowing children any food they want, or to using food as a bargaining tool inside or the outside the home. Only 2 percent of Filipino parents will allow their children to eat any food they want to eat. On the other hand, some parents in Hong Kong (22 percent), Taiwan (20 percent), China (19 percent) and Singapore (18 percent) tend to be more indulgent and openly accepting that children should be allowed to eat what they want.

Moreover, fewer Filipino parents are likely to use food as a bargaining tool with their children (9 percent) compared to parents in Hong Kong (20 percent), Singapore (15 percent) and China (12 percent).

The survey was conducted as part of Universal McCann's Global Nutrition and Obesity Study in June and July 2004. More than 11,000 people in the eight markets in Asia Pacific responded to the study, which was fielded on the Internet with the assistance of Yahoo! in most markets throughout the region.

Results from the study will be used to help report consumer and market insights for Universal McCann clients across Asia Pacific and the world to develop better communications campaign planning.

Previous Universal McCann research has indicated a possibility that consumers' readiness to adopt new technology and new media options in today's fast-changing media scene is affecting consumers' abilities to fit in regular exercise programs.



Doctors remember Rizal in Heidelberg

By Rafael R. Castillo, MD

MEDICAL FILES

"HEIDELBERG welcomes you hospitably," joked Jiri, our local guide as we neared the city center two weeks ago. Clear blue skies greeted us as we got a good glimpse of the medieval quarter of the old town where Heidelberg University is located.

Our group, consisting of doctors, wanted to retrace the steps of our national hero, Dr. Jose Rizal, when he stayed in Heidelberg for training to become an eye specialist. We realized how lucky doctors are these days, with many big medical institutions giving them the necessary skills and competence to become specialists in a particular field after several years of training.

During Rizal's days, doctors had to take the initiative to structure their own training program. Most ended up as physician-surgeons—jacks of all trades, masters of none. Rizal must have realized early on that medicine was such a vast field that one needed to focus on a specific area to deliver the best possible service to a patient.

Doctors then had to apply as apprentice or assistant of established specialists (and there were only a few). The trainee hoped to learn the extensive knowledge and skills of the specialist. He received no salary and had to spend for his living expenses.

First impressions

Rizal arrived in Heidelberg on Feb. 3, 1886, traveling by train from Paris via Strasbourg. In his letter to his relatives in Calamba, he wrote: "I arrived at Heidelberg on Wednesday, at half past two in the afternoon. The town seemed to me gay, on the streets are seen only students with red, yellow, white, blue caps of leather, etc.

"They say that the students belonging to different corporations fight one another for fun. When they fight, they have all the parts of the body covered except the face and the eyes are protected with goggles of steel mesh so that the head and the cheeks are the most exposed. They use a very sharp saber with which they fight by raising the arm over the head.

"The German student has fine presence, tall, and is very robust. On the night of my arrival, wishing to obtain information about a good professor of ophthalmology, I inquired about the beer hall where students foregather, and I was directed to the Gulden Bierbrauerie."

Rizal attended the clinic for eye diseases under the direction of the famous eye specialist Otto Becker located at Bergheimerstr 20. The building still stands, looking the same as it did during Rizal's time, and on its ground floor façade is a plaque acknowledging the stint there of Rizal.

The cobblestone walks and old shops are still there. The plaza frequented by Rizal in front of the Heidelberg University retains a medieval atmosphere.

Rizal spent half of the day polishing on German language and the other half apprenticing with Becker.

Rizal wrote his famous poem "A las Flores de Heidelberg" on April 22, 1886.

He stayed from April to June 1886 in the house of Pastor Ullmer in Wilhelmsfeld near Heidelberg. Here he finished his famous novel "Noli Me Tangere."

3 months in Wilhelmsfeld

Although Rizal stayed in Wilhelmsfeld only for three months, this was considered a significant part of his life. Twice a year—on June 19 and on Dec. 30—the Knights of Rizal of the Wilhelmsfeld-Heidelberg chapter and other chapters from Germany and European countries meet and organize festivities to honor our national hero. The roster of members of the chapter consists of noted dignitaries.

On our way home from Germany, we thought of the current state of our healthcare system and how doctors shift to nursing to get higher-paying jobs abroad. We couldn't help but wonder how Rizal would have felt had he been alive today.

Rizal would have probably thought that more than a hundred years hence, his country has yet to be liberated from the bondage of financial dependence on other countries.

ASK THE DENTIST
Paul R. De Castro, DMD

Dental problems of diabetics

WHAT are the dental problems common to diabetic patients? How do we treat them?—Dr. Ariel A.

Diabetic patients have an energy problem so it would be better to have their appointments in the morning so that their energy is not taxed. They also have healing problems when they have a tooth extracted. As long as the patient obtains a medical clearance and his blood sugar is OK, then the extraction wound heals normally. Bleeding is controlled with ice packs and pressure by biting on the gauze.

For a diabetic whose blood sugar is not okay but has a problem with a painful tooth, antibiotics and pain medicine are given. If this situation is prolonged, then a root canal is performed on the problematic tooth. Healing is better since the wound is smaller compared to an extraction.

Book on bones off the press

STUDIES show that bone fractures, although preventable, are one of the most common illnesses in our country today. Prevention of injuries requires a lot of common sense and precaution, which are often overlooked.

To help address this problem, bone specialist Jose Pujalte Jr. has come out with the "Bone, Joint and Muscle Handbook," a useful guide to bone injuries, diseases and other problems such as arthritis, osteoporosis, gout, scoliosis and whiplash. The book offers practical advice on the prevention and treatment of such problems.

Dr. Pujalte is an assistant professor at the Far Eastern University-Nicanor Reyes Medical Foundation and the San Beda College of Medicine. He will be holding a lecture on arthritis prevention at Powerbooks Greenbelt 4 at 6 p.m. on Sept. 18.

COPD patients misdiagnosed, miss proper treatment

GLASGOW, United Kingdom—Patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) are frequently misdiagnosed or remain undiagnosed, and may therefore be missing out on appropriate treatment. This according to the results of a primary care study presented at the recent annual European Respiratory Society meeting here.

COPD is a progressive respiratory disease that causes significant deterioration of lung function and chronic breathlessness that can lead to severe disability. Limited airflow associated with COPD leads to excess air being trapped in the lungs after a person has exhaled. This condition, known as "air trapping," is a primary cause of breathlessness, which often restricts a person's ability to perform daily activities such as climbing stairs or taking a shower.

2.7M deaths annually

Although COPD is the fourth leading cause of deaths worldwide, claiming 2.75 million lives annually, it is estimated that up to 75 percent of patients in Europe and 50 percent in the United States are undiagnosed. Results of the study showed that more than half of those affected with COPD may first be incorrectly diagnosed with asthma by their primary care physician.

"The level of misdiagnosis and underdiagnosis seen in this study is very concerning," said Prof. David Price, chair of primary care, respiratory, University of Aberdeen, UK, and principal study investigator. "Although recent guidelines for COPD emphasize the importance of accurate diagnosis, this has been challenging in primary care. There has been varied evidence for COPD signs and symptoms, and insufficient tools to make an accurate diagnosis. As a result, patients are suffering unnecessarily because they're not receiving appropriate treatment."

The study involved 597 patients recruited from primary care practices in the United Kingdom and United States, aged 40 years or older, with prior diagnoses or medications consistent with obstructive lung disease, but not previously diagnosed with COPD. Patients were given a study diagnosis based on spirometry.

40% with COPD

Approximately 40 percent of patients in the study were found to have COPD. Of these, 51.5 percent reported a prior diagnosis of asthma only, 10.6 percent reported no prior diagnosis of obstructive lung disease, 37.9 percent reported a prior diagnosis of COPD component diseases (chronic bronchitis or emphysema).

Among COPD sufferers originally misdiagnosed with asthma or with no prior diagnosis of obstructive lung disease, only 3.5 percent were receiving anticholinergic treatments, which together with beta agonists are central to the symptomatic management of COPD.

"It's time for primary care physicians to rethink their approach to COPD to ensure patients receive an early, correct diagnosis and appropriate, effective treatment. Early intervention with smoking cessation therapy may slow disease progression, and appropriate medical therapy may slow the deterioration in patient quality of life seen with COPD," Professor Price said.

Study results also showed that diagnosis of COPD in "at risk" groups (smokers and ex-smokers over 40 years of age) could be vastly improved if patients were asked a few symptom-based diagnostic questions to assess their lung health. if these questions were used for screening purposes in a primary care practice setting, testing 1,000 people at high risk would lead to 297 spirometric examinations and 110 new diagnoses of COPD.

"This simple questionnaire promises to be a cost-effective means of improving diagnosis rates and thus appropriate management of one of the most common, debilitating and costly conditions seen in primary care," Professor Price said.

Menopause: The what, why and when of it...

Menopause is essentially the end of menstruation, when the ovaries start to shut off production of the female hormones estrogen and progesterone. This usually occurs between the ages of 48 and 52.

Some women go through menopause for years, starting as early as in their mid 40's when the monthly bleed starts to change either happening at closer intervals or further apart or none at all. The blood flow may also change, usually becoming lighter and at times unpredictable.

Menopause has three stages namely premenopause, peri-menopause and postmenopause. During pre-menopause (ages 35-45) the menstrual cycle is still regular and women continue to be fertile and reproductive. Perimenopause is the stage (ages 45-48) when the period becomes irregular and symptoms like hot flushes and night sweats start to occur. Postmenopause is characterized by the absence of bleeding for at least 12 consecutive months. Common symptoms include hot flushes, night sweats, mood swings, irritability, decreased libido and vaginal dryness.

Women have varying degrees of symptoms and each one is unique from the rest. Some do pass this stage without feeling any of its symptoms. For the rest who do experience it, there is no need to worry.

Know yourself fully well and be aware of the changes your body undergoes. Eat the right food, do regular exercise, avoid excessive alcohol and smoking and have the right amount of rest and sleep.

Don't let menopause take away the joys of midlife. Ask your doctor for treatment options to alleviate its symptoms.

For questions or suggestions please e-mail: livial@organon.ph

"Midlife should be a rewarding time to spend with your loved ones, to enjoy your own time and to stay fit and healthy."

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BUSINESS

RP faces another power crisis, ADB expert says

By Abigail L. Ho

SYDNEY, Australia—Because of the delay in implementing the Electric Power Industry Reform Act (Epira), the country may soon face yet another power crisis soon, according an official of the Asian Development Bank.

In a presentation at the 19th World Energy Council Congress and Exhibition here, ADB Southeast Asia Regional Department principal energy specialist Mukhtar Ahmed used the Philippines as one of his examples to show how much a failure in power sector reform would cost a government.

"As a result of the delays in implementing the reform program, private investment in the Philippines' power sector has not been forthcoming, and the country could face yet another power crisis over the medium term," Ahmed said.

While the country should have been one of the first countries in the region to undergo power sector reform, he said "a longer-term view of the power sector was not taken and underlying weaknesses were not adequately addressed."

As a result, he noted that the state-run National Power Corp. was in a "poor state of health."

Saddled with some $20 million in liabilities, the state firm is one of the national government's biggest financial headaches.

According to ADB computations, Napocor last year posted a deficit of around $1.6 billion, equivalent to 1.9 percent of the country's gross domestic product in 2003.

By this year, the deficit could mount to as high as $2.4 billion or roughly 2.4 percent of GDP.

Ahmed said these problems were brought about by the slow implementation of laws meant to restructure the power industry.

Instead of working fast to prevent Napocor from further bleeding, "government-initiated reforms have stalled in the areas of sector restructuring (unbundling, privatization, establishment of a competitive electricity market), sector regulation, tariff rationalization and governance," he said.

Recently, the Court of Appeals junked the rates unbundling approval that the Energy Regulatory Commission gave Lopez-led Manila Electric Co., the country's largest private distribution utility.

The case is still under appeal by both the ERC and Meralco.

The privatization of Napocor's generation assets is also encountering delays, according to the privatization schedule that the Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corp. submitted to the Joint Congressional Power Commission late last year.

Bidding for the 600-megawatt (MW) Masinloc coal-fired power plant in Zambales, the first big sale for PSALM if a buyer will take it in the Oct. 27 auction, is facing the possibility of a failure due to complaints from several foreign investors about bidding terms.

So far, PSALM has sold only three plants, all small hydroelectric power plants with a combined generating capacity of less than 7 MW.

The establishment of the wholesale electricity spot market has likewise been delayed.

As for tariff rationalization, the ERC's recently approved new rates for Napocor, which will hike nationwide rates by an average of 97 centavos per kilowatt-hour starting Sept. 26, is currently under fire.

China firm eyes manufacturing site in Bataan

By Ronnel W. Domingo

A CHINESE glass manufacturer is looking for a site in Bataan for a planned industrial park, which would have an anchor project worth $312 million, according to Trade Secretary Cesar V. Purisima.

Purisima said in an interview that China's Hebei Jingniu Group Co. Ltd. was looking for an area of between 100 hectares and 130 hectares for its Crystal Ball Industrial Park.

"The main project for that park would be China's biggest single investment in the country," he said.

He added that the industrial zone would include two on-line production lines for coated float glass, which means that the coating could be put on the glass at the same time that the glass is being made.

The business park would also have two high-technology rolling crystallite glass lines.

Hebei Jingniu also wants to put up a 30,000 kilovolt-ampere power plant as well as a production line for plastic yachts, which would be the first in the country.

Purisima said the project was expected to break ground before the middle of 2005, in time for President Hu Jintao's scheduled visit to the Philippines.

The project is seen to create a total of 15,000 jobs for direct and indirect employment, he added.

Hebei Jingniu's main products include a variety of float sheet glass, on-line solar control reflective glass and high-tech rolling crystallite glass.

Its products are exported to some 70 countries in Europe, Asia, the Americas and Africa. Products from the planned facility here would be shipped primarily to Japan.

Purisima said the Chinese firm also expressed interest in making automotive glass in the planned project.

"Hebei Jingniu plans to attract other Chinese investments to locate in the industrial park," Purisima said.

Purisima said earlier that President Macapagal-Arroyo's recent state visit to China brought in a total of $1 billion in investment commitments.

The trade chief said that during the visit, the two countries agreed to expand bilateral trade, improve of the trade structure and develop potentials in trade and services.

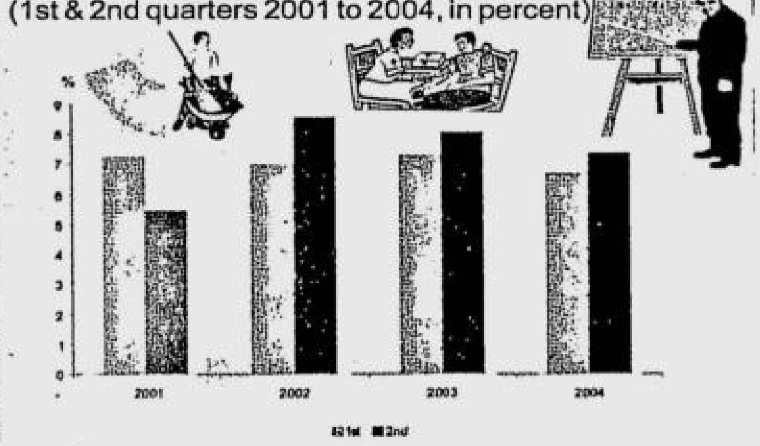
Purisima said the President's delegation, which includes 79 business representatives, appreciated China's support for agricultural development program and its grant of a $395-million funding facility for the Caloocan-Malolos segment of the North Rail project.

INQUIRER MONITOR

Figures that matter in our nation's life

Gov't expenditure share in GDP

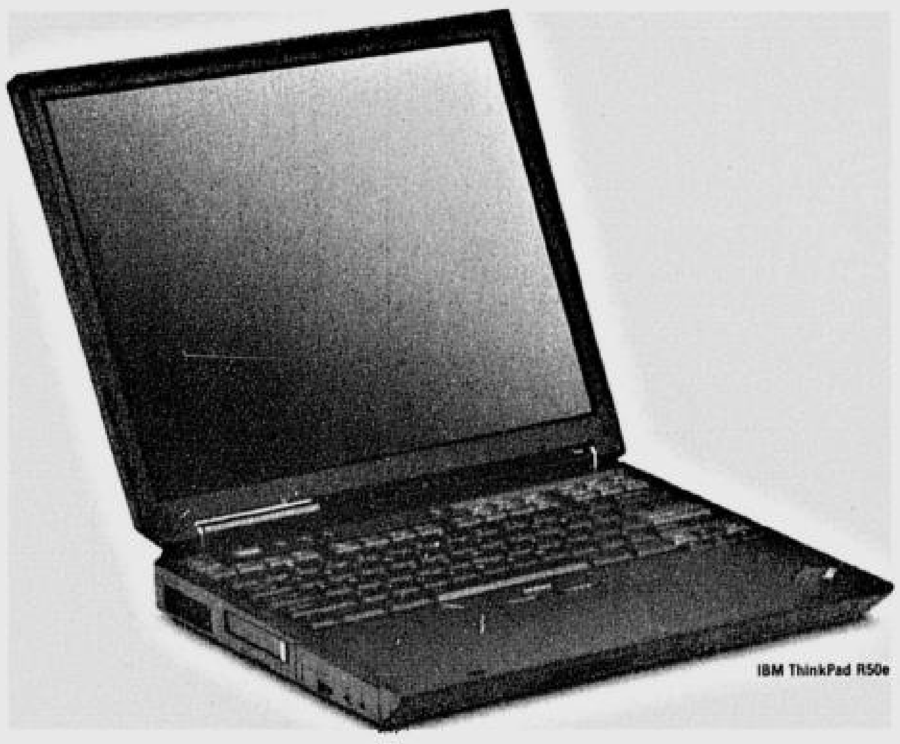
(1st & 2nd quarters 2001 to 2004, in percent)



Source of raw data: National Statistical Coordination Board

GOVERNMENT spending grew by 0.1 percent in the second quarter this year. It accounted for only 7.36 percent of gross domestic product, down from 8.06 percent in the same quarter last year when its growth contracted by 5.4 percent. Government expenditures include employees' salaries, advertisements, health, educational and other social services.

Maricar D. Tolosa, PDI Research



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DBM eyes cut in GOCC officials' pay

By Michelle V. Remo

THE DEPARTMENT of Budget and Management wants the exemption of state-owned companies from the Salary Standardization law lifted to slash fat salaries of some officials and help ease financial woes.

"We can possibly recommend it (lifting of the exemption) because we see that their exemption from the Salary Standardization law is being abused," Budget Secretary Emilia Boncodin told reporters in an ambush interview after a meeting with heads of local government units yesterday.

Boncodin said monitoring the way government-owned and -controlled corporations and government financial institutions compensate their officials and employees was necessary because state-owned firms could no longer be "sacred cows," considering the difficult times.

The government's budget chief said that aside from lifting the exemption of GOCCs and GFIs from the Salary Standardization law, the DBM could also recommend the putting of a cap on the allowable salaries for their officials and heads.

"It is unconscionable for someone to get a P600,000 monthly salary, especially if the office he heads is losing and considering the current situation," said Boncodin.

She added, however, that extremely high salaries cannot be considered illegal because of the exemption of some state-owned firms from the Salary Standardization law.

State-run firms like Land Bank of the Philippines, Development Bank of the Philippines, Social Security System, Government Service Insurance System and National Power Corp., among others, are exempted from the Salary Standardization law imposed on government agencies, and are therefore free to set the salaries of their own employees and officials.

Aside from looking at the salaries of state-owned firms, the DBM and the Department of Finance are evaluating the financial performance of 15 losing GOCCs, for possible dissolution because these were no longer needed.

Boncodin said the national government could no longer tolerate losing state-owned firms because of the lack of revenue.

"What I tell losing GOCCs is that if they operate as a private company, then their operations could have been shut down a long time ago. We simply cannot afford to bail them out anymore," said Boncodin.

The move to streamline GOCCs and check on their financial performance was prompted by the impact of their huge losses on the government's already weak fiscal position.

The Senate was set to conduct an inquiry into the way several GOCCs were said to have been "mismanaged."

The Senate earlier noted that country's public sector debt stood at P5.3 trillion last year, with the national government accounting for over P3 trillion and state-owned firms getting over a P2-trillion share.

But it said a substantial part of the national government's borrowings were also intended to bail out losing GOCCs.

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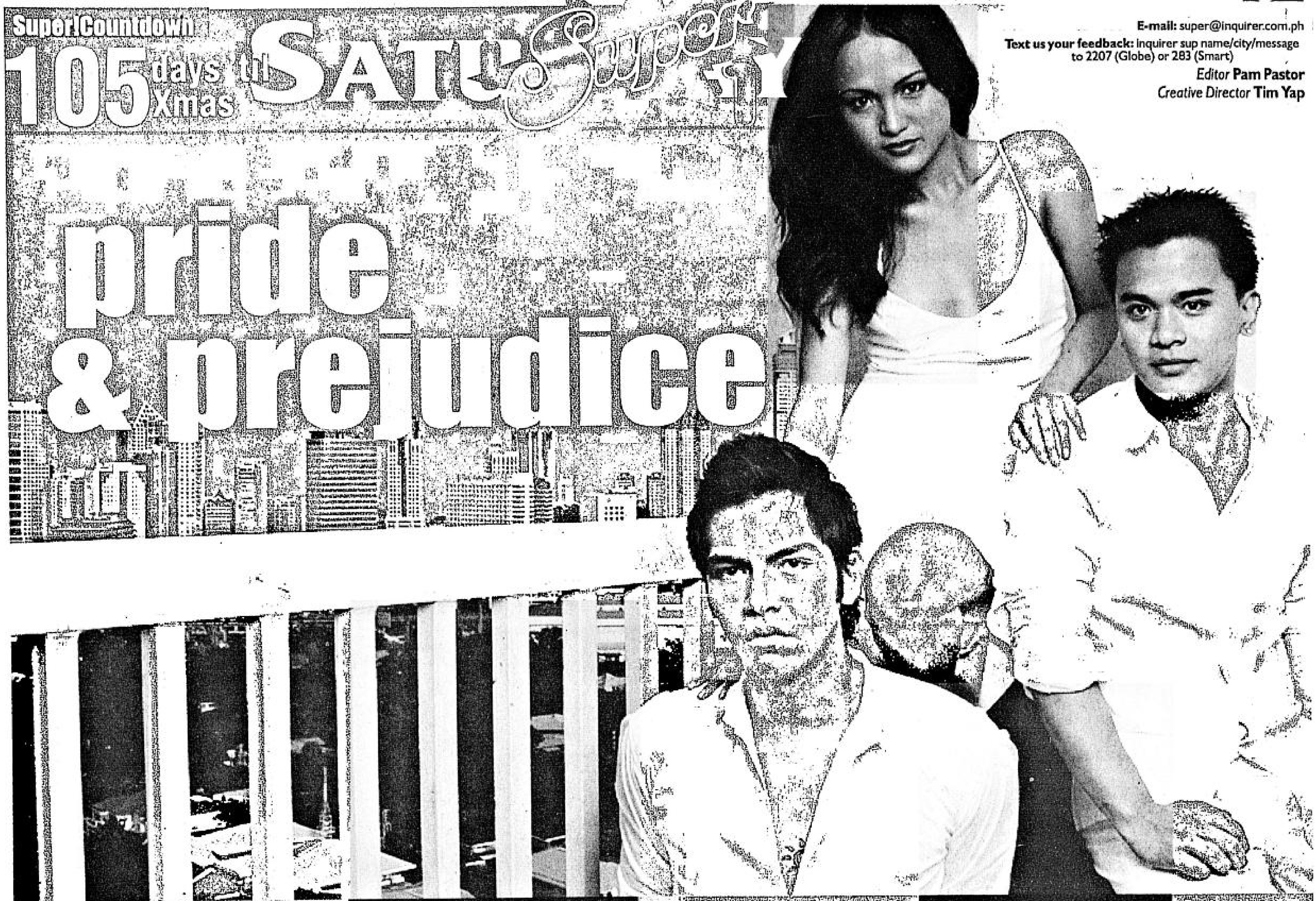

pride & prejudice

Tonyboy & Gretchen's new Dream page D2

Borgy Manotoc's Olympic Swatches page C2

Five phases of KC Concepcion page D1

OUT takes from the OUT hosts page C4

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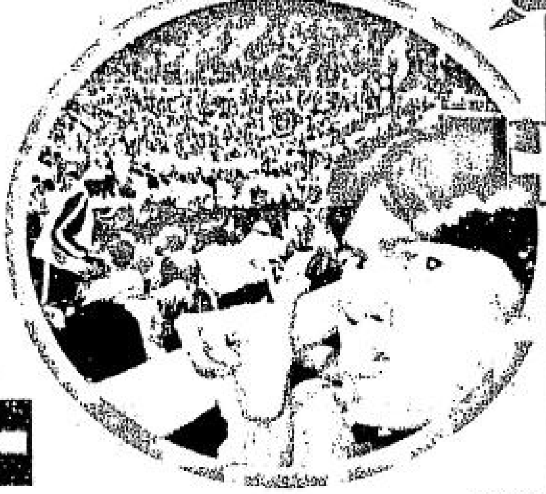

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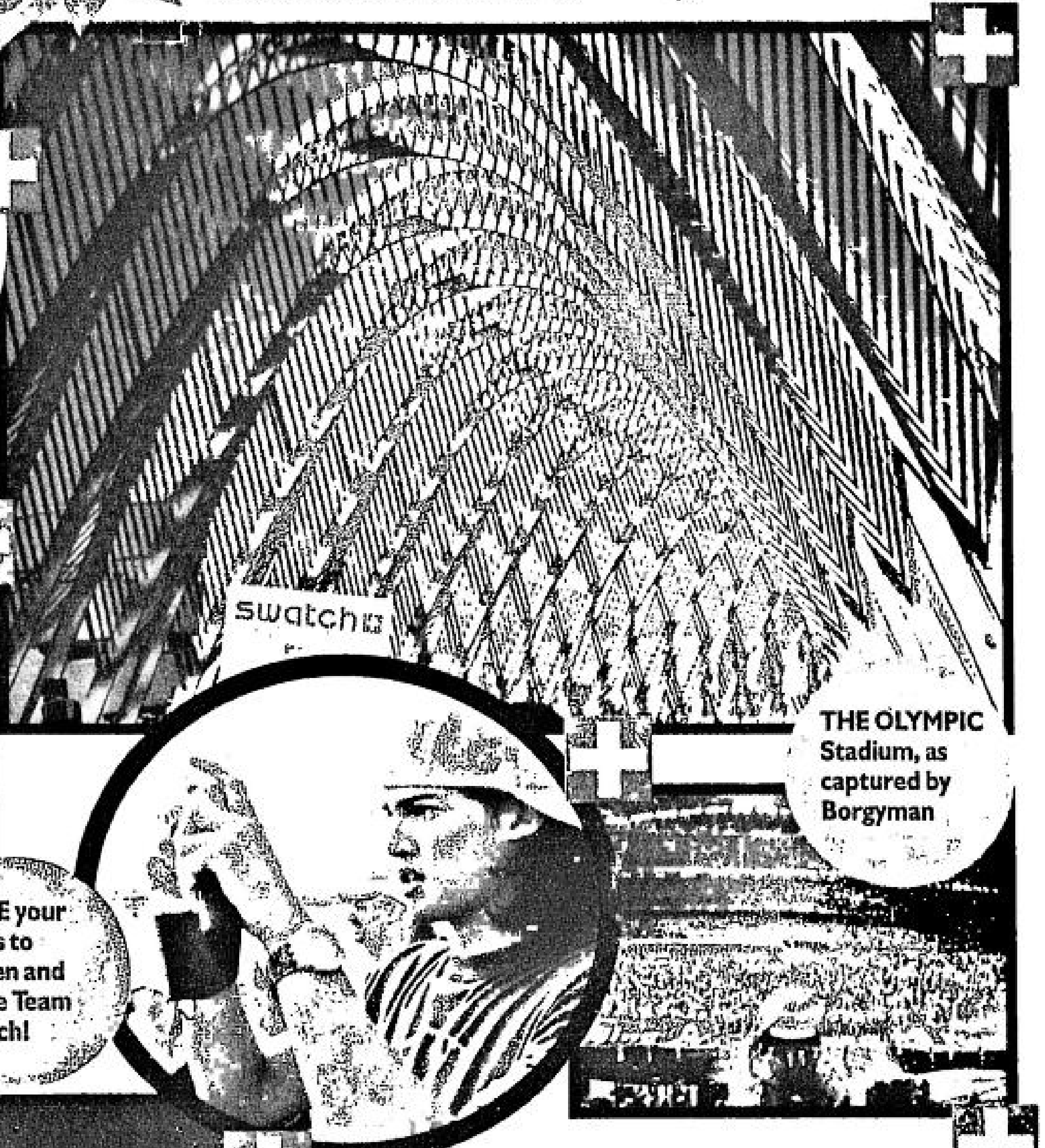
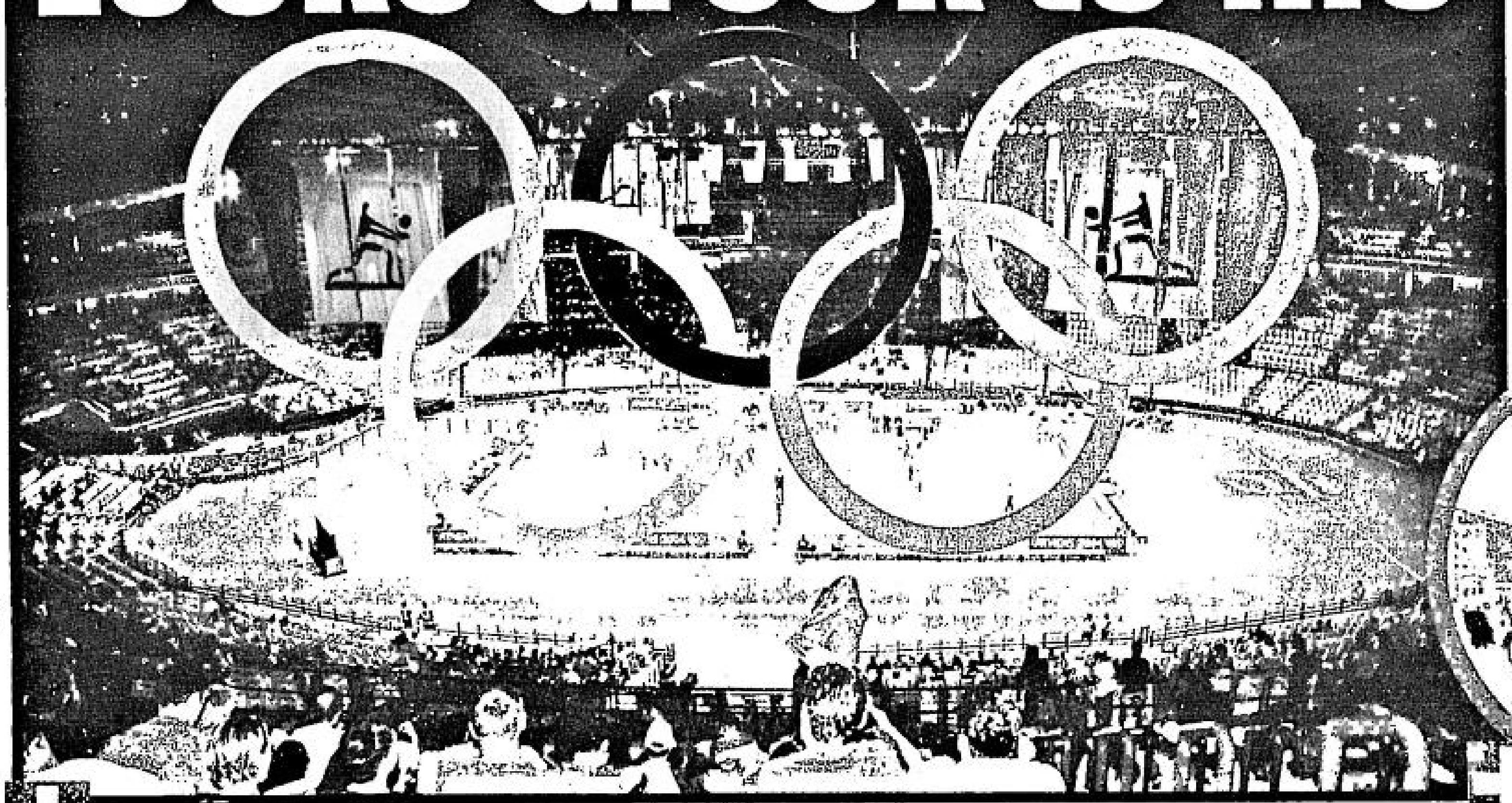
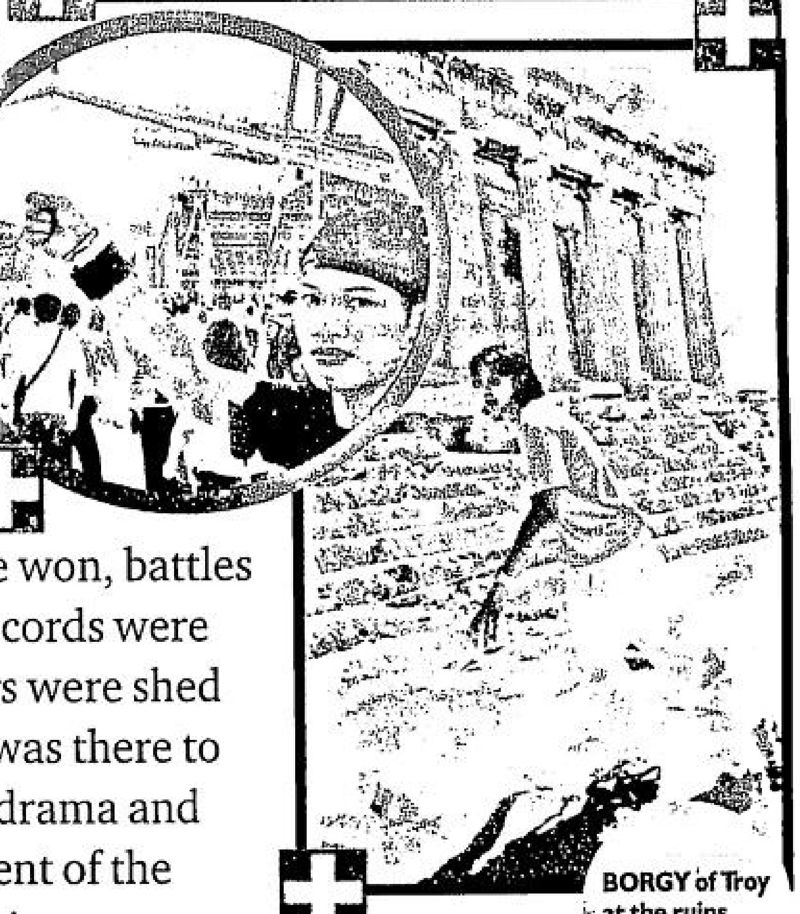


THE OLYMPIC Stadium, as captured by Borgyman

Looks Greek to me



ATHENS 2004



BORGY of Troy at the ruins

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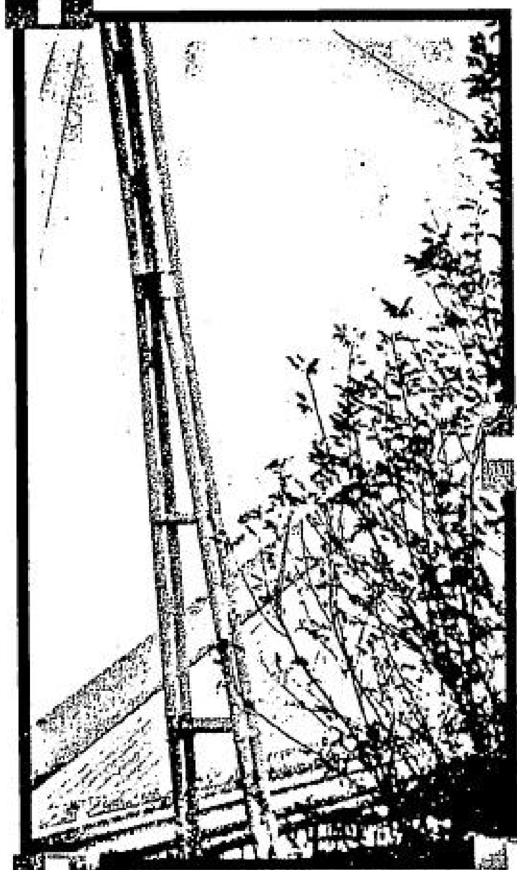

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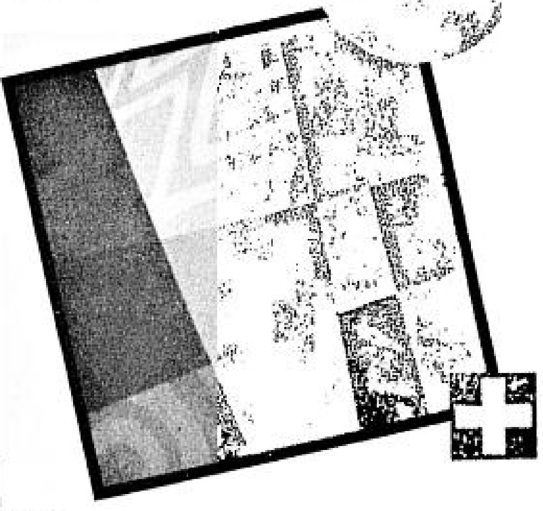
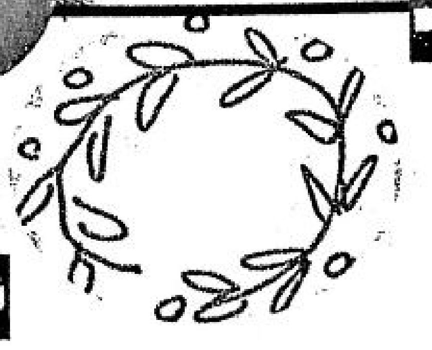


SUPER! TEAM PHILIPPINES. Mc Donalds' Kenneth and Cindy Yang, Dennis Valdes, Pinky of Swatch, Tessa Valdes, Borgyman and Rowell Santiago—Swatch lovers all

BRINGING the Oblation to Athens



MUD spelled backwards is "dum." Twin racers Kami and Karli in their element.

GET A CLUE. Colin and Christie, this season's oddly fascinating villains.

Amazing disgrace

Ten tips on how *not* to travel, courtesy of not-so-Amazing Racers

OUT THE WINDOW

Tals Diaz

IF I CLOSE my eyes, I can just imagine the selection process for the final batch of contestants in "The Amazing Race." Top-dog producer Jerry Bruckheimer, seated at the head of a long oak table, asks the potential racers some do-or-die questions:

"Are you and your partner mentally prepared to travel more than seven thousand miles around the world, whether by foot, plane, train, boat, automobile or four-legged creature?"

"Are you amenable to instigating conflict, sowing discord and stoking antagonism among fellow opponents whenever possible because, as we all know, these are the most crucial elements that increase viewership of reality TV shows?"

"Finally, are you willing, whenever the opportunity arises anywhere you are in the world, to exhibit ignorance, tactlessness, insensitivity, intolerance, jingoism and cultural bias, to further stoke the growing anti-American sentiment in the world today?"

Alright, alright, no intention of stirring up conspiracy theories here, just being a student of hyperbole! As the season of "The Amazing Race 5" winds down to its last nail-biting episodes (they're heading to our part of the world in next week's show), I can't help but get offended at some of the racers' general behavior now that they're on the mandatory "Third World leg."

Sure, it's only a TV show, but because it's a reality program predicated on having Americans do a Phileas Fogg by going 'round the world in 80 days amidst the current political climate (with temperatures soaring to "Fahrenheit 9/11"), I can't help but take a closer look. And this only served to create some confused thought bubbles.

An irate American viewer recently posted this comment on an Amazing Race message board: "You know those two buildings that used to be in New York? You know when you watch the Olympics, and you see people in the audience booing the American team? Have you ever watched the news and seen people in other countries burning American flags? One of the reasons that many people around the world don't like us is because of what they perceive as American arrogance and greed. So it stands to reason that when an American travels abroad, he might want to do whatever he can to respect the locals [and] improve their perceptions of what we are like."

Based on this season's race around the world, here are some of the finest tips on how NOT to travel:

#1 Shove your native tongue down the throat of the locals. If they can't speak your language, dismiss them as ignorant halfwits.

True, English is the language of international business, diplomacy and the academe. But in a world that speaks 6,800 languages to date, you can't expect to fly to a remote village in East Africa and expect the locals to respond to you in perfect English. Tell that to Colin (this season's certified villain and possible soul mate of Flo from Amazing Race 3) when he barged into a police station in Tanzania and demanded of the officer: "You speak English?" To which the blasé officer rightfully responded, "You speak Swahili?"

#2 In Latin American countries, it's perfectly alright to transmute English words into phrases that remotely sound like Spanish. In every other country, speak English with a fake accent. If the locals still don't understand you, they *are* uneducated halfwits.

"Can you call *uno* more taxi?" "Stop-*o*! Stop-*oe*!" "*Moo-chas* grassy-ass!" So went the painful tirade in Uruguay, from my least favorite racers of the lot, Mirna and Charla. But just when you

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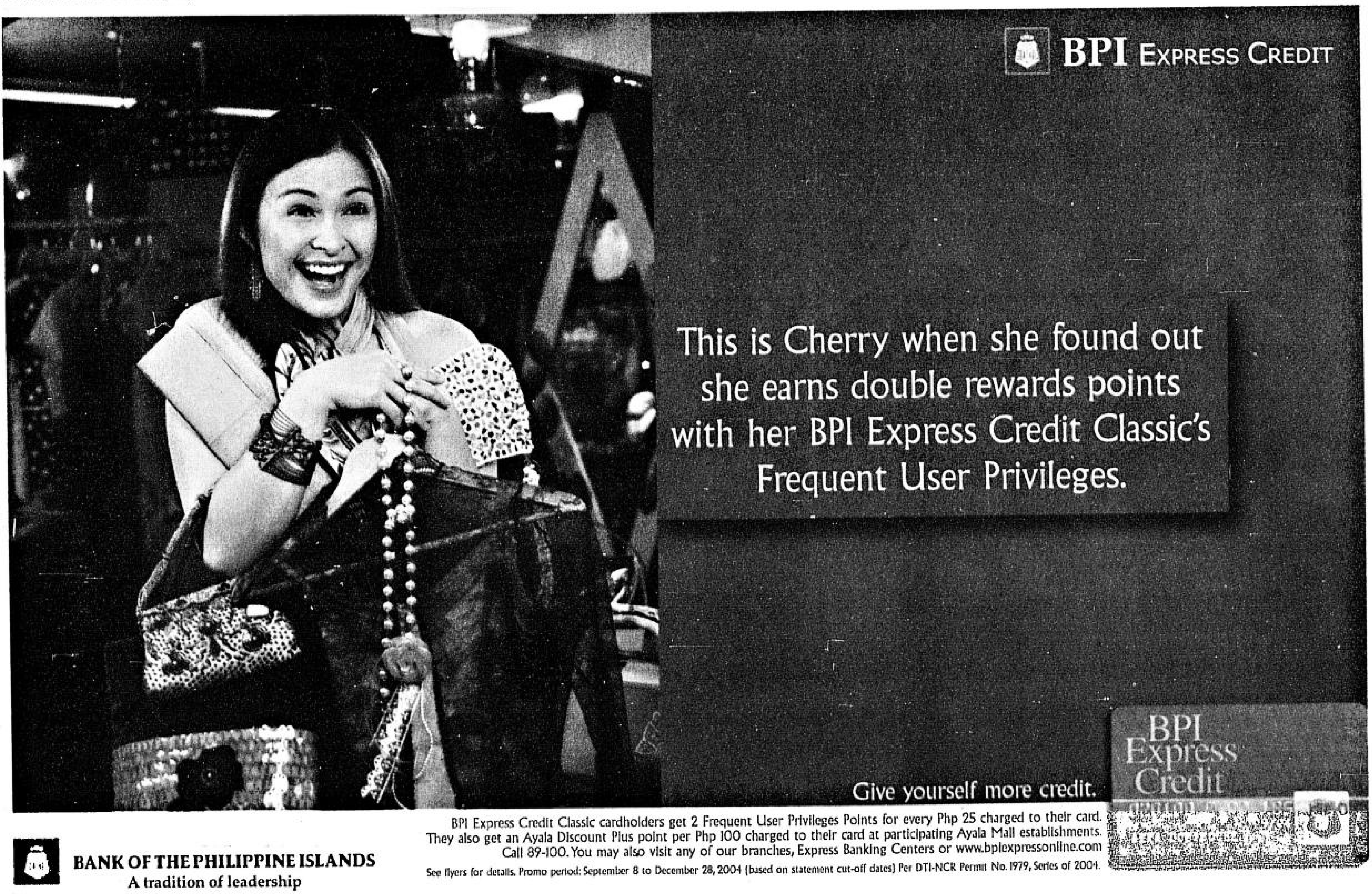
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A tradition of leadership

Come out, come out, w

SUPER! took the hosts of "Out!", GMA 7's newest show for alternative lifestyle seekers, out of the studio and into our pages.

Here, we provided them with a platform from which to express their views, *out* of the closet. Jigs Mayuga, a stage actor who doubles as a hair and makeup artist, has already revealed himself to the people closest to him. He has been a staunch advocate of gay and lesbian rights since his college years.

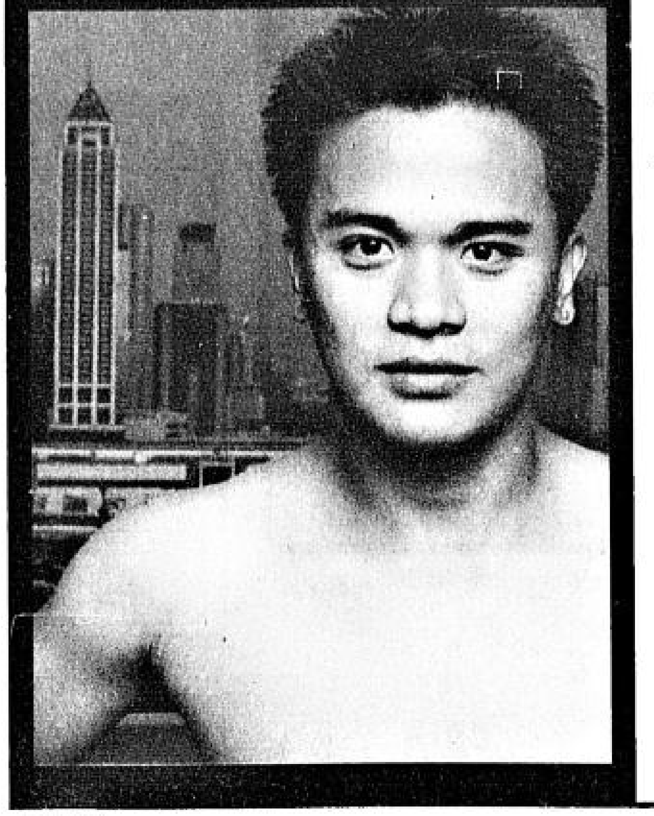
JM Cobarrubias started as a production assistant for "Probe Team." When a third "Out" host retreated for "family and religious" reasons, he grabbed the chance and came out to his family, just last week. "My mom is in the States," he said. "I don't think she saw it."

Party girl Avi Siwa, a deadringer for Tia Carrere, led a bisexual life even while she was with her boyfriend for six years. At Club V, she went onstage, grabbed the microphone and asked the partyphiles, "Does anybody here have a problem with bisexual women?" The guys cheered (of course) and the women sneered.

"Okay, great!" she said. "'Coz, I am!" The crowd roared.

PHOTOS BY PAOLO PINEDA

Fearless, flawless



By JM Cobarrubias

My ultimate dream is to become a powerful or renowned person who's going to admit that he is gay when he's already on top of the world.

I accepted this job with GMA because I believe in its vision—to help broaden Filipino society's understanding of the third sex. I know that through this, I can serve as an inspiration to others, an example of a man who is truly brave. For me, a real man is someone who has integrity and fears no one.

At four or five years old, I already knew something was weird about me. Being a boy, I knew that it was weird to have a crush on another boy. He was my age, and took the same school bus.

In grade school, I remember, my classmates called me "*bakla*," whenever I danced like crazy or sang aloud.

Thus I grew up hearing people say behind my back, "*Parang bakla*." Some even dared call me that to my face. I would just go away, or shut up.

As an adult, I was accosted by some tactless people with the question: "*Bakla ka ba?*" I reacted in the same way—I kept quiet, or walked away. Two years ago, the last time that this happened, I managed to reply, "It's none of your business." I thought, that was not a good answer. I should have said, "Why do you ask?" or "I am not sure yet." Something, anything more witty.

I never thought of really telling the truth, because I felt that people asked not because they were concerned but because they wanted to embarrass me.

Truly happy

Before I came out, my principle in life was, I didn't need to tell the truth to people who didn't matter. To hell with them, I said, I was not going to give them the satisfaction they sought. Let them go crazy guessing. Or let them die, I didn't care. You may think this was so brave of me, right?

No! I was the hardest on myself. I soooo wanted to be discreet, that I deprived myself of so many things. Although I had friends who knew me well and with whom I felt free to speak and sit with, I still tormented myself. I was ashamed to introduce my effeminate gay friends to my family, ashamed of my Mariah Carey CD collection ...

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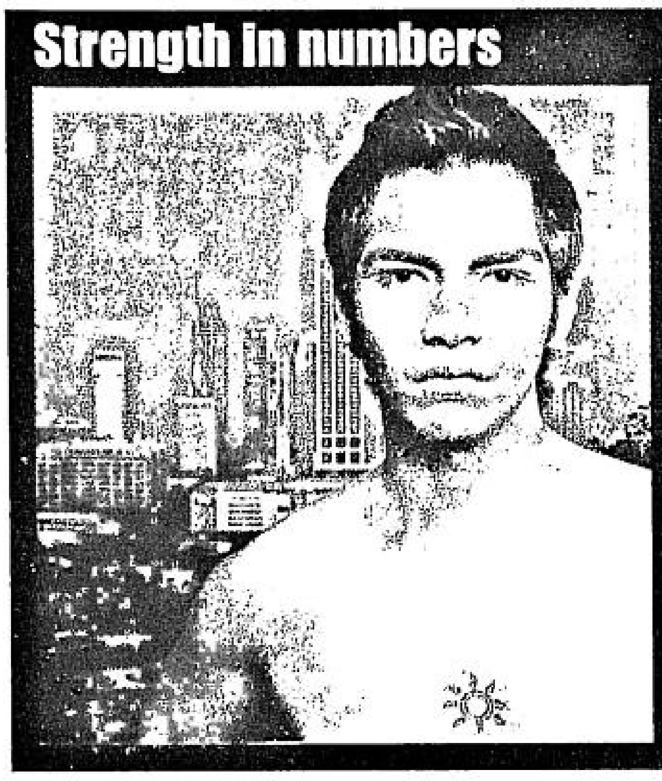

By Jigs Mayuga

For the first episode of "Out!" I was asked by the producers to come out to a person who has been significant to me at one point in my life. This posed a challenge because, at the time, I was out to virtually everyone who was important to me—my parents, my family, my friends, my co-workers—even my grandmother! The girl I came out to on the show, my good friend Alfie, had actually heard of my sexual orientation through the grapevine. I just sort of confirmed it. This difficult "search" for that person I could come out to for the show made me realize how far I have gone and how much I have accomplished since I first came out six years ago. I am no longer the naïve, inhibited, gay "newbie" that I was when I first stepped out of the closet. I have finally arrived.

The closet is a sad and lonely place. Believe me I've seen it and I've been in it. It is dark and suffocating. It causes people much pain and even drives some to thinking of

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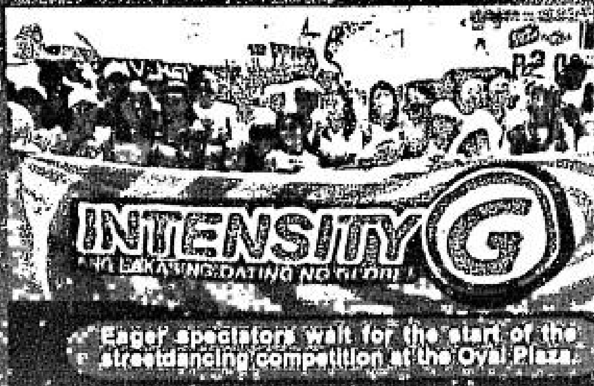
Living inside

July and Globe subscriber Bebot Haw chat over lunch.

Music rings out on the streets of GenSan during the Tuna Festival.

Tuna on wheels at the Tuna Float Parade.



Eager spectators wait for the start of the streetdancing competition at the Oval Plaza.

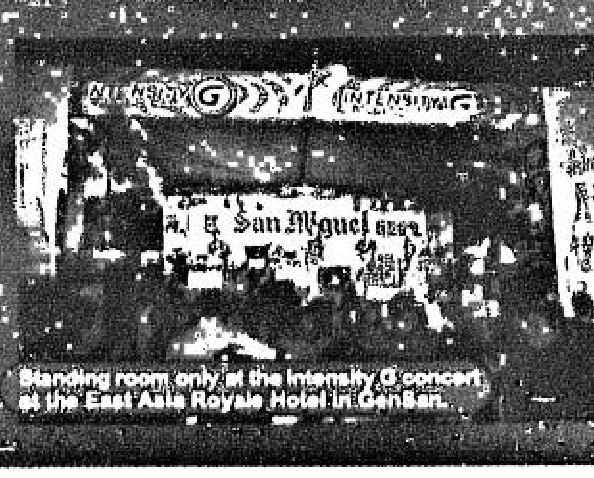
The Intensity G sales booth at GenSan's KCC Mall is a guaranteed crowd drawer.

Street dancers at the Tuna Float Parade.

Crowds lined up to get their SIM swapped at the Intensity G sales Booth at GenSan's Oval Plaza.

The Intensity G balloon at the Oval Plaza becomes a prominent city landmark during the Tuna Festival in GenSan.

A large gathering of rockers for the Battle of the Bands at GenSan's Oval Plaza.



Standing room only at the Intensity G concert at the East Asia Royale Hotel in GenSan.

INTENS
Forges Lasting Bor
Minda

The cities of General Santos and Cagayan de Oro offer the perfect cure for the stressed-out city folk. Where else but there can you take in nature beauty in a vibrant urban setting. Intensity G recently went to Mindanao no only for a bit of nature and food tripping but also to forge long lasting bonds with locals and Globe subscribers celebrating the Tuna Festival and the *Kagayhaan* Festival respectively. Globe's roving regional roadshow further spiced up the already festive vibe of the two celebrations with its unique events and activities such as motorcades, concerts, parties and sales blitzes.

General Santos' Tuna Festival is a fitting tribute to the city's most famous delicacy. Tuna harvested from the rich waters of *Saragani Bay* are sold both locally and abroad and accounts for much of the city's present wealth and prosperity. One of the locals who made it big because of the tuna is Globe subscriber Bebot Haw. The commercial fisherman sells his fresh tuna catch to buyers from as far away as Japan, U.S.A, Europe and Australia. Bebot told popular Globe 128XL endorser July over lunch how he has greatly benefited from Globe's superior network coverage in General Santos and Mindanao.

"I have been a Globe subscriber since 1996. From then until now, I have nothing but praises for Globe's innovative services and wide network coverage in the region. Because of Globe, I can easily keep track of the daily schedule of deliveries by simply texting or calling my people. I can easily call them without fail every minute and every hour of the day!"

After the courtesy call, July then went on a spin around the city via an Intensity G motorcade, a fast and convenient way to reach out and connect with the people of General Santos. Locals and Globe subscribers alike turned out in full force to watch the parade and also to get hold of the FREE Intensity G merchandise July was giving out to onlookers.

The Intensity G sales blitzes around General Santos were such a big hit with local Globe subscribers as it provided them with a venue to have their

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herever you are...

ied about having a girl-tainly never proclaimed I was like, what you see is u will never find proof of -he.

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ut, as the whole country is say I am truly happy—be-r have to go through the I never again have to be the versy, not the least among cute.

and, for being brave, I ore respect and admira-irst needed to be respect-before I could admit the epted.

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ng themselves. I have seen n destroy lives and relation-people to retreat and to hide feel. Most people think that ut" and open to people about entation, all you think or talk eing gay. In fact, people who hink about their being gay at being themselves. It is those the closet and who are not ilies, friends or colleagues at constantly thinking of their is because they are afraid of it. To me, this is a sad, sad know how it is to be free and it. I don't have to go through what I'm wearing, for in-suggestive, if my wrists are uld scratch out Mariah Carey favorite singers in my "friend-ecause I might be found out. more liberating than being eing proud of who you are. he closet robs individuals of full, rewarding lives and forces them to stay in fear and shame.

Here to stay

So why are people so afraid to come out of the closet? In Philippine media, gay men and lesbians are still the constant butt of ridicule. It is ironic to note that majority of those who work behind the scenes in TV, print and movies are mostly homosexuals. This is self-loathing at its "finest," brought about by being in the closet. People are not aware that the out, gay community in Manila is slowly growing in size. Through the internet, gay men and women everywhere can communicate anonymously and share experiences. The closeted are no longer alone. They now have the ability to talk to those who are already out, without being prematurely "outed." There are gay professionals everywhere. We are your doctors, engineers, managers, programmers, directors, artists, call center associates. We are your sons and daughters. We are part of the Filipino family. We are in every imaginable field.

And we are not going away.

It is important for people to come out in order for the "invisible" pink market to be seen and heard. Doubt not the existence of the "pink peso," or spending power of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) community in the Philippines. But this will be appreciated only if the market is seen and heard. In the United States, there are gay-specific ads. Most US companies also recognize domestic partnerships between gays and lesbians, and offer benefits to partners of homosexual employees. This should not be a far possibility here in Manila.

Malate on a Saturday night or during events like the gay pride parties held in June of every year, swarms with gay men and women. Imagine the thousands more who would rather stay home. The invisible gay community, said to be higher now in figures than the record 10% of the population in the past, is a force to be reckoned with. Gay Filipinos pay taxes. Gay Filipinos vote. I think it is high time we all came out and stood up for our rights. Gays and lesbians are not asking for special privileges. We just want our rights as citizens to be protected as decent, tax-paying Filipinos.

Discrimination is still very much out there. Gay and lesbian rights advocates still have a long way to go. Most people who discriminate against homosexuals are, more often than not, people who have never had gay or lesbian friends. They are afraid and aware only of what they usually witness on TV and in the news. With the emergence of hit shows such as "Will and Grace" and "Queer Eye for the Straight Guy," as well as the positive portrayal of the LGBT community in popular films, these stereotypes are finally crumbling. We are finally enjoying getting the visibility we have needed for such a long time. In the Philippines, "Out!" will be a venue for gays and lesbians as well as straight individuals everywhere who recognize the diversity of mankind and celebrate the uniqueness of Filipino gay culture.

Bi and proud

By Avi Siwa (as told to Tals Diaz)

People are always asking me how I have the courage and confidence and drive to do what I do now. I own a modeling agency, I plan events and I love to party. I think it has a lot to do with my experience growing up.

I went through a lot as a kid. My dad left my mom after my younger brother was born, and it was my mom who supported me throughout. My mom didn't have a lot, she had to join singing contests just to buy me milk! My grandmother would sell vegetables also in the province and worked as a seamstress just to support us. All this just made me a stronger person—I did not rebel, I studied harder, I was at the top of my class and even won beauty contests.

I've always been very independent. I've lived on my own at 19, put up a bar at 20 and set up a modeling agency at 21. I've always had a positive outlook in life, and have always been a happy person.

A lot of people question my bisexuality. Well, I wouldn't mind changing to trisexuality! Seriously, I believe it's a personal journey. I can't prove it, it's just about what I feel. I always say that you can't box people, I've seen and met so many people, all kinds of people, so you can't describe them as simply this or that! Everybody is different.

We live in a very conservative country. I believe that if you're open-minded, it frees you! You must know yourself and not care about what other people say. It's all about how you carry yourself.

I'm really honored that I got to be part of this show. I think through this show, I could reach out to people. I want to help a lot of people out there, and provide education to those who need it. I already started supporting environmental organizations recently. I hope we can get a lot of support—even from straight people—at least to lessen the discrimination out there.

ITY G
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anao

SIM swapped or to avail of such Globe services like the AutoloadMAX or the new 128XL SIM. Delighted shoppers at the Intensity G sales booth at the KCC Mall even got a chance to have their new Globe 128XL SIM card signed by July while others got a chance to have their photos taken with him as well.

Nightlife in General Santos was made more vibrant with Intensity G sponsored concerts and parties. They offered music and party lovers entertainment possibilities way beyond the norm. Pop music fans swayed at the *Dikoban sa Kahy* in Osmena Street, while head bangers rocked to the Battle of the Bands at the Oval Plaza. Not to be left out, RnB fans got funky with Squib Cake at the East Asia Royale Hotel. And that's not all, Intensity G even hosted parties at some of the city's top nightspots such as 8 Tracks, El Puesto, Mamagaya and Cassado Bar where local Globe subscribers went home, not just musically fulfilled, but also with exclusive Intensity G premium merchandise.

The large crowd in all of the Intensity G events and activities in General Santos is once again proof that Globe's roving regional roadshow is striking the right chord with local Globe subscribers.

Visitors who were either in General Santos or Cagayan de Oro for the Tuna Festival and *Kagayhaan* Festival respectively got to experience firsthand the power of Globe's network strength in both areas. They were able to make voice calls, SMS or MMS without fail. This is made possible by Globe's extensive network of cellsites in the region. Now, tourists can easily tell family or friends back home about the thrills of shooting the rapids in Cagayan de Oro or feasting on an exotic tuna dish in General Santos anytime of the day through their Globe Handyphone.

Intensity G had a blast connecting with locals and Globe subscribers in General Santos and Cagayan de Oro. Their warmth and exuberance made the trip truly worthwhile and memorable. Intensity G will continue to spice up other local festivities in the coming weeks. Watch out for it!

July samples GenSan's famous tuna.

Parade onlookers gather around July during the Intensity G motorcade in Cagayan de Oro.

July connects with Globe subscribers at the Intensity G sales booth in Limketkai Mall in Cagayan de Oro.

Beautiful majorettes grace the Civil Military Parade in Cagayan de Oro.

July on the banks of the Cagayan River.

Colorful boats ply the waters of the Cagayan River during the Lambagohan fluvial float parade.

Globe subscribers enjoy an evening of top-notch RnB music.

Fun moments with July at the Intensity G Street Party in Havelano Square, Cagayan de Oro.

July and the Philippines' No. 1 Mix DJ Razor Ray battle it out on the mic at the [illegible] Bounce Party in Cagayan de Oro.

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More to life than pop

WITH the quarter moon peeking in through my window, I finally got down to some serious shindigging and created a soulful retreat in one corner of my room. Collapsing onto an oversized ottoman, I carried out a chore I'd been Hacky Sacking forever: organizing my CDs. At a thousand five or so, my collection was years in the making and traced my evolving musical preferences. I decided to let my formative influences—from a taste-impaired music slut (MC Hammer) to a discerning metropolitan polyglot (Kings of Convenience)—dirty-dance with each other. I arranged everything "High Fidelity"-style: autobiographical instead of alphabetical. The experience proved to be at once effortless and backbreaking.

After hours of spackling some real estate, I peeled back to admire my own private "Empire Records." Loaded with Finnish flea market finds, old photos, and closed-captioned memories, my now systematized CD wall forms the paradise I run to when I need to be creative. It's in the same spirit—raw inspiration breeding originality—that I have written a rather eclectic guide to hunting for good music. Like a Möbius strip, the steps are seamless and interchangeable because a genuine love for great music should be just as natural and easygoing. To some, it may sound preachy in its hyperbolic fervor, but I assure you it's anything but that. All it pushes for is a freer rein on expression and self-discovery that sees beyond pop music.

MIXED EMOTIONS. The Rolling Stones are my new pals.

Age against the machine

Gino de la Paz

Lesson 1: Try something vintage.

During my middle school Kurt Cobain-worshipping days, I once laughed at a dude from 3rd period English who was heavily into the Rolling Stones' "Ruby Tuesday." As a victim of perception management by the gods of music television, I was conditioned to think that anything remotely "Classic MTV" was uncool. Little did I know that Old Testament rock was the cornerstone of any serious CD collection. Generations or genres should not limit any bandit worth his or her iPod from appreciating good tunes by wrinkled, drug-addled, and sometimes dead, rock stars. After all, music is not an age thing.

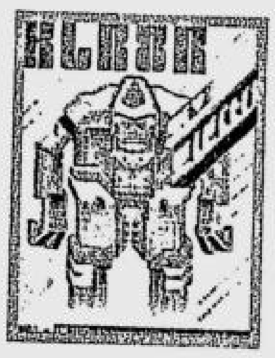
Following the lead of my hippie classmate, I raided my parents' library and found wealth in the form of Cat Stevens, Mamas and the Papas, and Perez "Prez" Prado. Since then, I've tossed out my sissy Limp Bizkit CDs and flipped my cap around the right way. I now roll like a retro frat boy to The Beatles' "Revolver," soundtrack to some of my college all-nighters.

Caution: Despite the level of bohemian sophistication you may feel at this point, resist all urges to buy out an entire thrift store. There's lots more to discover.

Lesson 2: Think out-of-the-boombox.

Jay Kay of Jamiroquai once sang that he was "going deeper underground." He may have been referring to the periphery of the FM dial. Though Usher, Nelly and Maroon 5 are excellent mainstream staples, hearing them four times an hour will make anyone's ears really waxy. According to a University of Texas study, musical tastes are strong personality indicators. Study co-author Peter J. Renfrow explains that peeps who like pop are outgoing but traditional, while those who flip for hip-hop tend to be chatty but not contemplative.

For depth and dimension, I suggest you crank the radio volume to zero for a second and explore the grittier side of your usual choices. Start with Weezer's eponymous album and Pavement's "Slanted and Enchanted," two milestone discs that inspired today's flurry of power-pop bands, including the Thrills, Phantom Planet and Rooney. Next, represent your non-P.Diddified side with intelligent hip-hop from Mos Def ("Black On Both Sides"), Dilated Peoples and Roots Manuva, if you want something more British and less gringo. At this stage, you should ignore the initial dislocated feeling and consider the out-of-body rush like the first day of summer vacation.



RENEGADE SNARES. Drum 'n' bass maestros Omni Trio

Lesson 3: Research, research, research.

Skip Rolling Stone, Blender and Spin. In line with your slightly indie, anti-ostentatious-trainer vibe, preface your research with outsider rags like The Face, i-D, and Dazed and Confused. Their arcane music-nerd knowledge should get you sweating for some under-the-radar music in no time. Bookend your exploration with more UK magazines like Sleaze—which I happily stumbled upon while chomping on a *samosa* in London—and established monthlies like Q, Mojo and NME. However, if you have a strong predilection for North America, ask your favorite aunt or distant cousin to grab copies of Xlr8r, Fader and Filter in the States, or Bigshot (B.S.) in Canada. Scribble down tracks you think will blow your eardrums and, afterwards, listen to samples on Amazon.com or imbibe test swigs at a peer-to-peer website. By doing so, you can figure out whether to a) buy the whole CD, b) burn a few songs, or c) drag a rake across the critic's face.

Of course, nothing beats hearing about a great CD from a good friend but we'll get to that later. Now, you are slowly walking away from the ordinary. Pretty soon, you'll be experiencing something exuberantly exotic on a daily basis.

Lesson 4: Learn a new language.

If there's anything to be learned from "The Amazing Race," it's that being exclusively monocultural can make you a retard. Being into a variety of things, including music, can make you a well-rounded and well-liked bastard. With classic rock, power pop and think-hop covered in the previous lessons, it's time to continue the genre-busting with some classical music. Simply, you don't have to be in a fiercely liquid circle to comprehend Beethoven and his crew. With that in place, chase the buzz of jazz, blues and country in one swipe with the "O Brother, Where Art Thou?" soundtrack. Keep your stereo young, though, with Drum 'n' Bass 101 from Adam F, Roni Size and Omni Trio (check out "Skeleton Keys"). Stomp on with another byproduct of the UK underground scene, garage (say like "carriage"), which is sped-up house music and then some. To sample the sounds of Ayia Napa—the garage wonderland of Cyprus—cop rudimentary stuff by Artful Dodger, the Architechs and the garage remix of Shola Ama's scorching "Imagine." Don't stop now.

To some, this guide may sound preachy in its hyperbolic fervor, but it's anything but that

Lesson 5: Listen while you shop.

No doubt, some of the best music you've never heard of blasts out of clothing stores. With a lifestyle approach to retail, high-end meccas like Colette in Paris and Harvey Nicks in London, and even high-street shops like Abercrombie and Fitch and H&M, all load their CD changers with music to complement one's shopping experience. For instance, I picked up on "Astounded" by Bran Van 3000 feat. Curtis Mayfield while fitting a pair of Pumas at Size? in Belfast. I also heard Ladytron while working shifts at American Eagle a while ago. When you tune into something you like, don't be afraid to look like a dork. Ask the DJ or store manager for the track title or artist's name. In case neither is helpful, just memorize key lyrics. You can plug them into a search engine when you get home, supposing you want to bundle good times with an instant soundtrack.

Lesson 6: Pay attention to the TV.

This seems to contradict everything we're trying to accomplish, but hear me out. Television can yield ear candy as well. For good measure, trawl through episode guides of your favorite shows. I combed a few "Smallville" fan sites and found a complete soundtrack listing for Season 2, which had cool songs up the butt. Besides teen shows, FTV, the fashion channel, is an extra resource for alien sounds. I sniffed out "The Bottle" by Gil Scott-Heron, a '70s jazz legend whom I initially thought was Sly and the Family Stone. Lastly, TV commercials can sometimes be invaluable. For instance, the Stones' "She Comes in Colors" was used to hawk iMacs a couple years ago, while Nick Drake's "Northern Sky" introduced a new generation to the V.W Beetle. Yup, the boob tube can also be a jukebox.

Lesson 7: Bug your buds.

As I've mentioned in Lesson 3, stealing some rhymes from your posse can breathe new life into your played-out CD archive, provided your friends are more aurally adventurous. My ex-roommates and writer-friends, for example, were the go-to people who got me busting out to groups like Handsome Boy Modeling School. Your hi-fi can never go wrong with a recommendation from someone you know and trust.

Lesson 8: Earn some miles.

There's a world out there waiting to be explored. But if you can't do it physically, let your ears do the backpacking. Begin in Mexico, undeniably the cradle of *música alterlatina.* Imagine wolfing down chicken with molé from Puebla, chasing it with some tequila, and wigging out to Café Tacuba's "Reves Yosoy," Plastilina Mosh's "Aquamosh," or Molotov's "¿Donde Jugaran Las Niñas?" How's that, *guey*? For a Mexican music platter, buy, borrow or burn the "Amores Perros" soundtrack. Later, trek down to Cuba for some traditional son. Anything related to the "Buena Vista Social Club," Ibrahim Ferrer or Ry Cooder should pimp you out. Further south in Colombia, shimmy to some Caribbean *vallenato*, Carlos Vives or Aterciopelados ("Gozo Poderoso" is a personal favorite). *Listo*? It's never too early to prepare for the Brazilian pre-Lent orgy known as the *carnaval*. Do so with the "Black Orpheus" movie soundtrack. Then hop across the Atlantic, first to Italy for Jovanotti's "Capo Horn" and next to Paris for some slinky Samia Farah ("Barbare"). To cap your world-in-a-stereo spectacular, shake your ass to the distant drums of Africa, Thailand and India, all of which you could hear on the remarkable CD "1 Giant Leap."

David Bowie says, "Trust nothing but your own experience." Following our brief lesson on building an interesting CD collection, you must now be close to acquiring the ears of a sound curator and your bland pop self should be lightyears away. Listen and learn because after those manufactured singing idols have come and gone, good music will always prevail.

Earthdance 2004: Peace Pride

Lemon-aide

Giselle Segovia

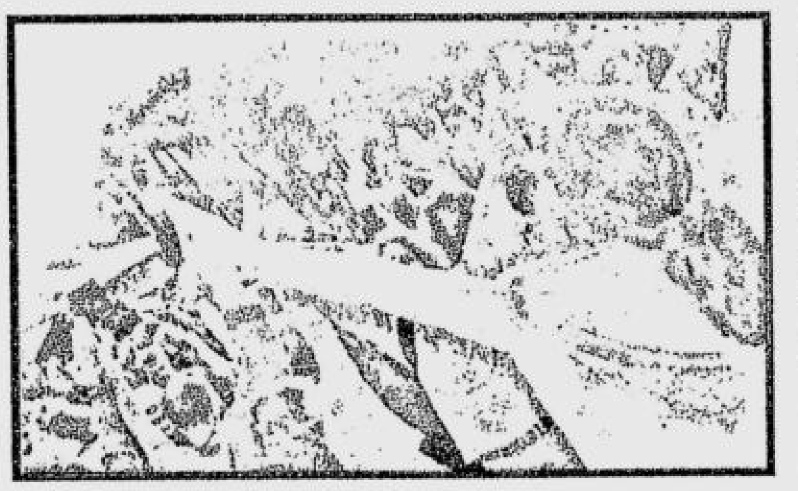
"We are one global family
All colors, All races
One world united.
We dance for peace and the healing of our planet Earth.
Peace for all nations.
Peace for our communities.
And peace within ourselves.
As we join all dance floors across the world,
let us connect heart to heart.
Through our diversity we recognize Unity.
Through our compassion we recognize Peace.
Our love is the power to transform our world
Let us send it out
NOW..."

—The Prayer for Peace

IS THERE an endeavor more noble and true than seeking peace for all mankind? This is exactly what Earthdance 2004 is all about—it is a movement toward concord for everyone. Started in the year 1996, it is by far the largest globally synchronized dance event with the vision to unite the world through the universal language of dance and music. Its goal is to stir substantial interest from artists, DJs, musicians, event organizers and clubs—enough for them to commit a single day for humanitarian efforts. One day of peaceful celebration and harmony, to coalesce all nations—and all you have to do is grind your hips. If "inspiring" isn't enough to describe that, then "amazing" might just suffice, don't you agree?

The organization began with 22 participating cities in 18 countries. At present, it has expanded to an astonishing 130+ cities in 50 countries and 1 million attendees, and it is still continuing to grow. Locally, the momentous entrance of this event to our shores will be made possible by Mint Manila, which impresses with a charity affair for their debut. Not bad, not bad at all.

Some of the benefiting groups of this spine-tingling convergence are Humanitad, Friends of United Nations, 11 Days of Global Unity, We the World, A Million Voices, World Peace Player, Evolve and Once Peace Society. The celebration is a long festival of music and artistry, culminating in simultaneous singing of the song "The Prayer of Peace" by all the participants from different parts of the world. The webcast will commence on Sept. 18.



"LET there be peace on earth..."

It's not everyday we can help put our country on the map for righteous reasons—so take pride in contributing. However you see it, it's a win-win situation. See you there, if you care enough. (Guilt trip in action.)

Saturday, September 11

Tanghalang Pilipino's "Troyanas (by Euripedes)" is opening this weekend. This post-war story is set after the fall of Troy. You won't see Brad Pitt, Orlando Bloom or Eric Bana here but you will learn more about the perils of taking the path of war. Directed by Jose Estrella, the play is scheduled at 8 p.m., with matinee performances as well. I'm particularly interested to see the set design by NYU-schooled Gino Gonzales—he was the creative genius behind the exotic set of the recent Bench Underwear Fashion Show. The show will be staged at the CCP Tanghalang Aurelio Tolentino (Little Theater). For ticket inquiries and special packages, call 832-3661 or the CCP Trunkline 832-1125 local 1620 & 1621.

MUSICIANS rock the stage at the Earthdance celebration.

Sunday, September 12

Once again, UAAP aficionados will get a break from watching the season's overheated games with Non-Stop's Annual Cheerleading Competition. Participating universities will vie for the crown of least committed mistakes in calisthenics—such as failed pyramid-forming attempts. Lecherous men would want to ogle young girls in pleated mini-skirts, yikes. The event starts at 2 p.m. at the Araneta Coliseum. Call Ticketnet at 911-5555 for details.

Monday, September 13

For those who have never had the chance to catch it yet, watch the recent motion picture adaptation of Nicholas Spark's, "The Notebook." For women—it will certainly raise the bar for your standards in men. For men—it won't kill you to sit through another romantic flick. Starring the very talented ex-boyfriend of Sandra Bullock, Ryan Gosling is the smitten Noah Calhoun. It should be on its last days of its run so you might want to get on with it. Chop-chop!

Tuesday, September 14

RnB guru Steve Mills just recently launched his "Temptation Tuesdays" at Il Ponticello, Valerio Street, Makati City. For more of those sexy tunes, save this night for grooving and make sure that you clean up because the dress code is in effect. For reservations or weird queries, dial 887-7168.

Wednesday, September 15

Partyphiles' favorite, DJ Manolet Dario, and the dashing GP Reyes invite everyone espe—cially women—as Visa-V Wednesday Nights at Vbar hosts the Bayo Girl Search Party. If you're 100% female and look it, go to Makati and strut your stuff. You can get a chance to be chosen for the next Bayo Fashion Show. 10 p.m., Vbar.

Thursday, September 16

One day to go before they close the exhibit of Gerry Ingco's "Propaganda" (Not the salon!) at the Galeri Astra, LRI Business Plaza, 210 Nicanor Garcia St., Makati City. He shows another perspective to abstracts. See for yourself. Call 890-3988 or 724-3032 for questions.

Friday, September 17

"Studio 54 on Studio 23" is the station's Pre-Party for the Emmy Awards. The theme "Disco Glam" surely fits the scheme, especially because they are flying in Bert Bevans and Shawn 7—both former resident DJS of the historic Studio 54. The affair will also launch the exclusive live telecast of the Emmy's on Sept. 20, Monday at 9 a.m. Studio 23 is fluffing its tail, proud to announce that they got a whopping 55 nominations for 10 of their shows! The party starts at 10-ish at the Expo Exchange in Greenbelt 1. Tune in to channel 23 for more 411.

Saturday, September 18

Earthdance 2004 will kick off at 10 p.m. on this night at Club Halo in Milelong compound, Makati City. "The Prayer for Peace" will be sung along with the rest of the participants across the planet, to be broadcast live at the venue. Joining hands in this effort are: Magic 89.9, 99.5 RT, Wave 89.1, Lemon Magazine, led by Mint Manila. For more inquiries, log on to www.earthdance.org/makati.

The Word for the Bored:

"Nothing is going on. I PROMISE."

—insider's scoop about Orlando Bloom and Kirsten Dunst, who are on the set, shooting a movie. Kirsten Dunst just recently broke up with the adorable Jake Gyllenhaal.

Amazing disgrace

From page C3

thought you could still sleep at night, they made it to Russia, where they suddenly developed this strange, mutated accent that made them sound like Transylvanian trollops, only with less class.

#3 Shortchange the local service people of their hard-earned wages when you feel like it.

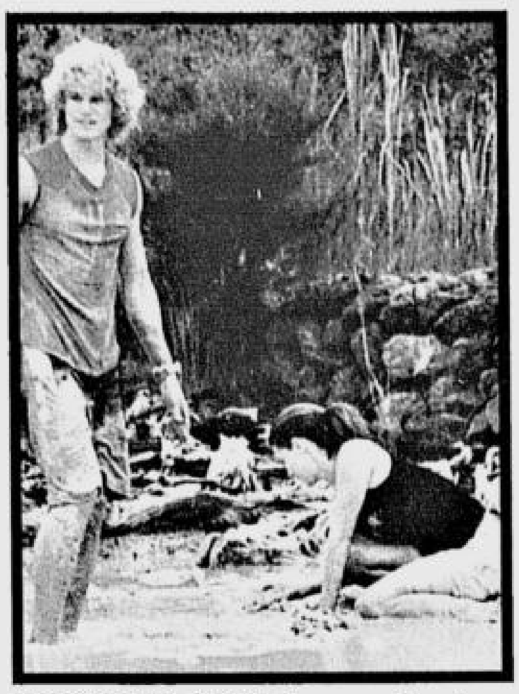
Brandishing a wad of small bills amounting to $50, half the agreed fare, the evil Colin screams at the Tanzanian taxi driver, "Here's fifty bucks, take it or leave it. You were driving with a donut! A donut!" Meanwhile, the befuddled and hungry-looking cabbie looked on, trying to make the connection between the pissy American and the sugarcoated dessert.

#4 Fight with the local police if the rules you disobeyed don't correspond with the rules in your head.

So the poor cab driver exercised his citizen's right to seek help from the police. Colin still didn't back down; instead he yelled, bitched, threatened and incensed the authorities, exhibiting all the qualities that could make him the star flunkee of anger management class.

#5 Scream at taxi drivers for not having superhuman capabilities to ease traffic.

I'd like to personally ask the Bowling Moms, those pinheads, if teleportation is already possible and the rest of us just haven't gotten the memo? Or, have they gotten wind of other top-secret scientific methods of transforming solid objects into sub-atomic particles, allowing cabs to slink through bumper-to-bumper traffic? We'd like to know, since such information would greatly help ease the traffic situation in Metro Manila.



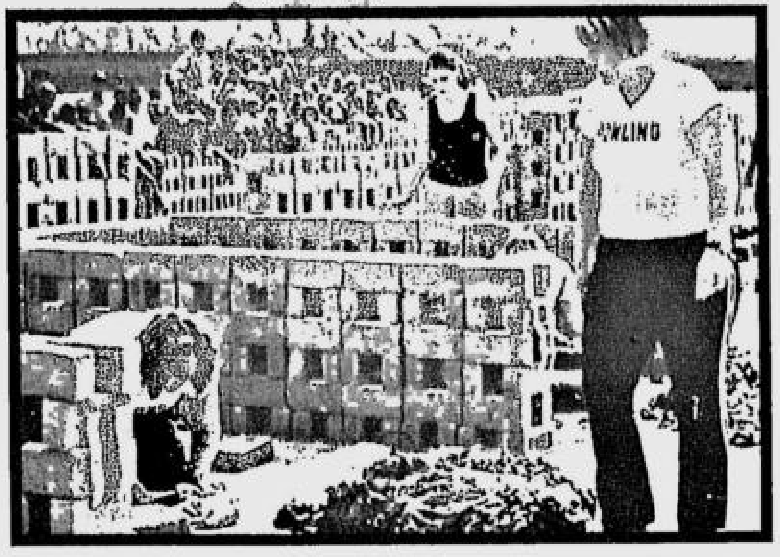
TALKING DIRTY. Bible-thumpers Brandon and Nicole at Hell's Mouth, New Zealand. Love the irony!

#6 Express your disgust while in sacred shrines and temples built in honor of a god that you don't worship.

Visiting the city of Dubai for the first time, one half of the goody-two-shoes team, Nicole, commented: "They have so many... so many of those... what do you call them?"

"Mosques," said Brandon (a.k.a. Krusty the Clown stunt double).

"Yeah... mosques. They're all over the place. They're like Starbucks here."



BOWLED OVER. Brick molding bowling moms Linda and Karen.

Um, yes, silly girl from the Bible belt of America! In the Middle East, the dominant religion is Islam. The people are Muslim. They worship at mosques. Don't count on getting your moccha frap fix there!

#7 Be as loud and obnoxious as humanly possible at the airport ticket counter. Never mind if there are other people in line; only your interests matter.

We know it's a million-dollar race. But do the ticketing agents, airport personnel, security officers know that, much less care about it? What about the other passengers who are also waiting in line?

#8 Be condescending to the locals. Even if you are the visitor, you may still refer to the locals as "foreigners."

What cheek! And I'm not referring to the physical attributes of pizzeria owners Marshall and Lance, when they were badgering the locals to help them find their next landmark in Uruguay. When the local Latinos said they did not know, the pizza boys remarked, "the foreigners here are useless. Absolutely useless." Hmmm... looks like their pizza crust isn't the only thing that should be stuffed.

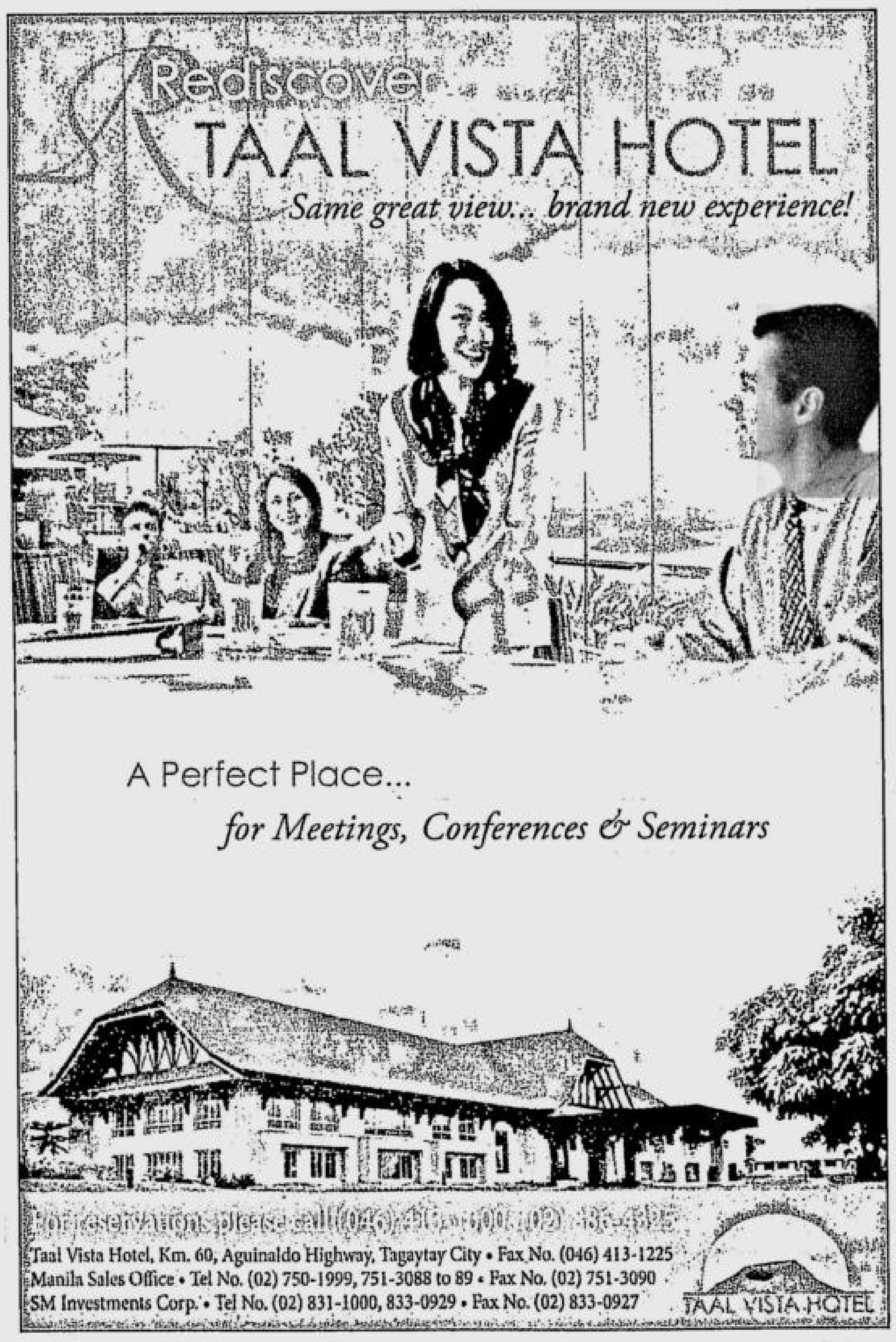
#9 Complain loudly about an impoverished place to its very citizens. Who cares if they will never have the means to overcome their lot?

Okay, so Kolkata may not be everyone's idea of a honeymoon destination. Yet I'd caution against belittling the city and hurling insults directly at the locals, for that would probably justify a demotion to the lowest rung in the caste system in the next life. Either that, or reincarnation as a blind, one-legged scarab.

#10 Do not know what a "scarab" is.

Well Ramses be damned! While sand digging in Egypt, none of the racers knew what a scarab was? Not even one? Didn't any of these people ever watch "The Mummy"?

(Email the author at: inca_orange@yahoo.com)



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(s04)

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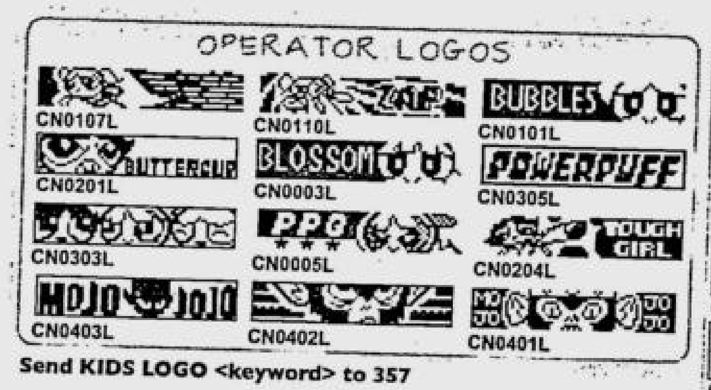
CN0107L
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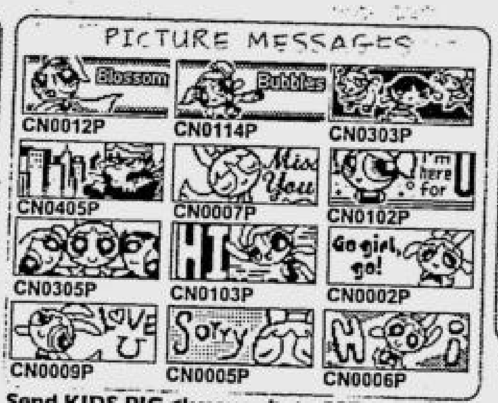
Blossom
CN0012P
Bubbles
CN0114P
CN0303P
CN0405P
Miss You
CN0007P
I'm here for U
CN0102P
CN0305P
HI
CN0103P
Go girl, go!
CN0002P
LOVE U
CN0009P
Sorry
CN0005P
CN0006P

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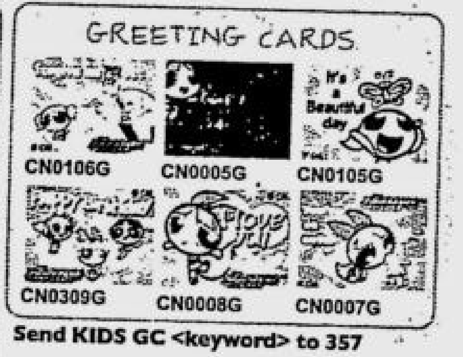
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It's a Beautiful day
CN0105G
CN0309G
CN0008G
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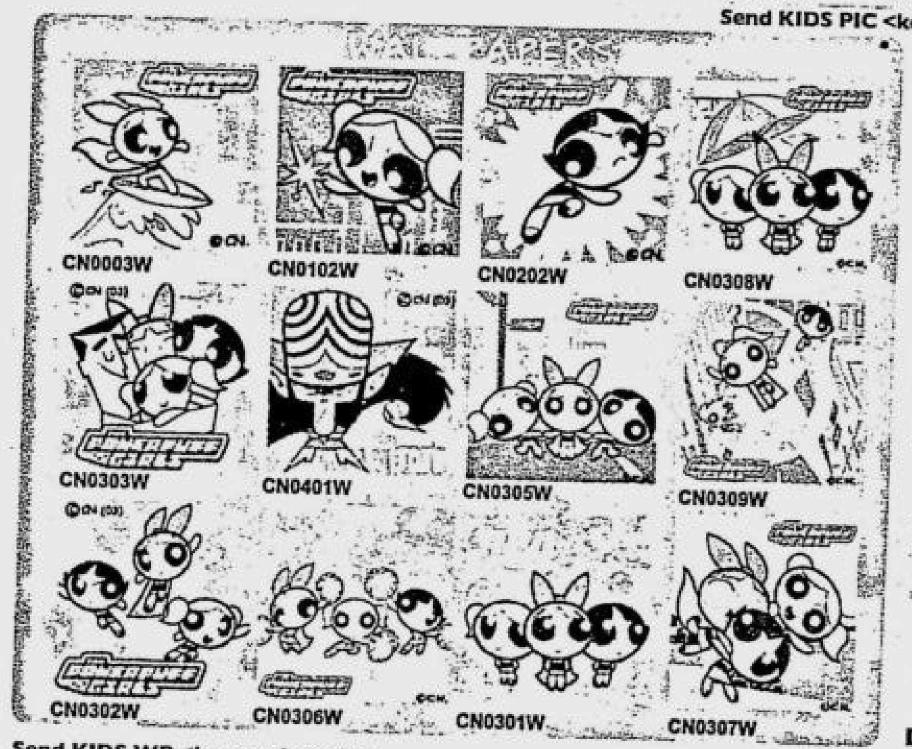
WALLPAPERS
CN0003W
CN0102W
CN0202W
CN0308W
CN0303W
CN0401W
CN0305W
CN0309W
CN0302W
CN0306W
CN0301W
CN0307W

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Per DTI- NCR Permit no. 1941 Series of 2004.

Download any three Powerpuff Girls Images at the Cartoon Network Awards of Excellence Roadshow on September 11, 2004 (at the Cyberzone Activity Area, SM Southmall) and on September 26, 2004 (at the Atrium A, SM Megamall), and get a SMART Kid Headband or Tumbler for FREE!

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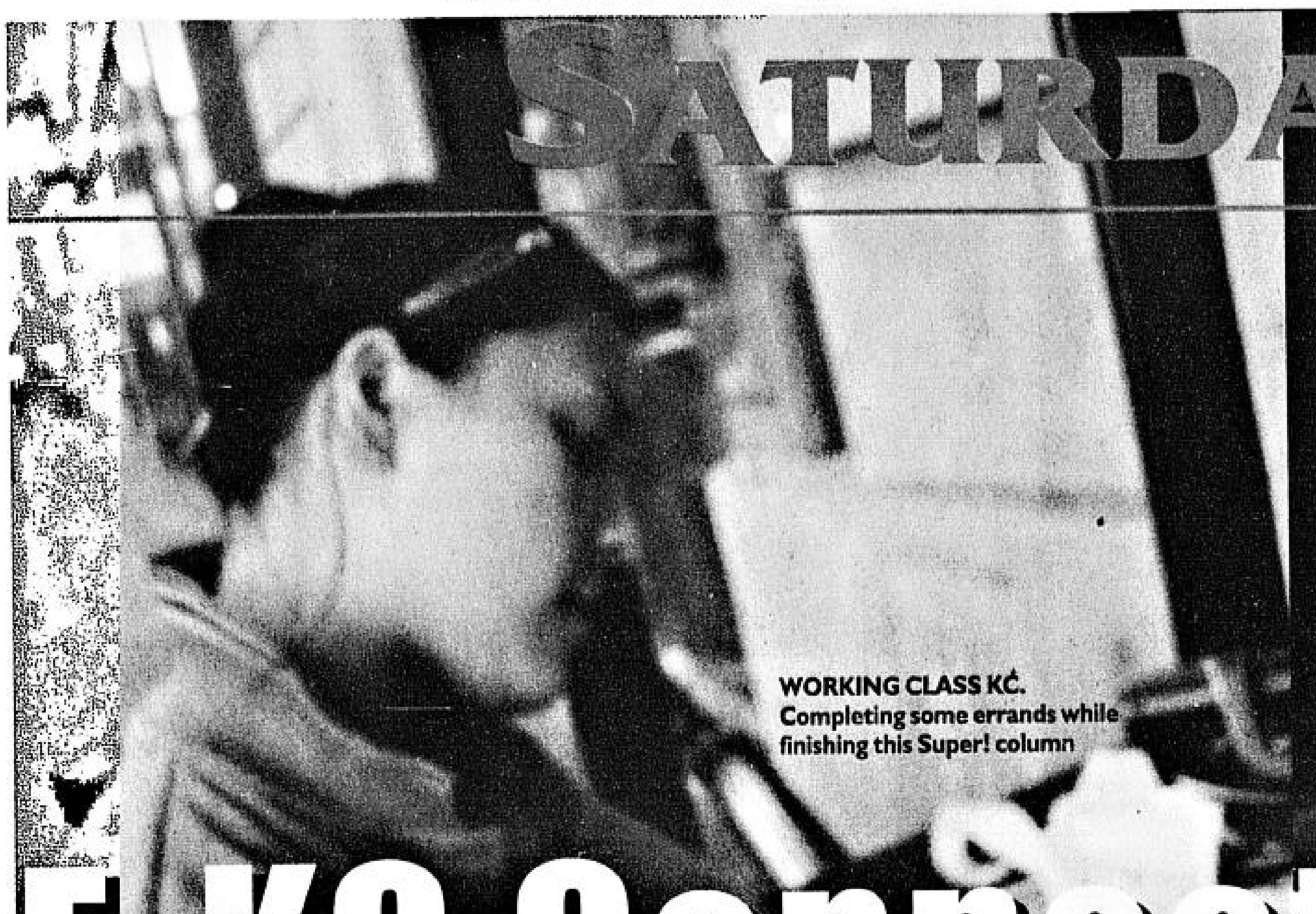


WORKING CLASS KC. Completing some errands while finishing this Super! column

HERE'S a picture of celebration, feel the joy, taste the rainbow! I finally received my Carte de Sejour (legal student/resident visa) after one full year of waiting.

F-KC Connection

KULIT CO.

KC Concepcion

WHEN I got my first big paycheck, I treated my best friend to her first big shopping spree. But she didn't know about it until the day ended. While waiting in traffic on some road in Makati, I grabbed my phone, scrolled down to her name, and when I heard her voice on the other line, after a ground-shaking "Happy Birthday!" I asked her to choose a number between 5 and 12. After blurting out the first number that came to mind, she, of course, demanded to know that was all about. She had just established our budget for the day but she didn't know it until we got to the clothing store of her choice.

It's always a plus to have the chance to choose what you want in life but sometimes we need to leave things to fall into their proper place and happen the way they were supposed to when we least expect it. Paris has been a breeding ground for some firsts. French has been the first foreign language I could actually converse in, which led me to getting my first little Parisian home, and achieving my first year of college education (grace a dieu).

The city has taught me to succeed my first jay walk, wear out my first pair of knee-high leather boots (they kept my feet warm while I tried hard not to get hit by a Continental GT Bentley), drop down to a size 26 (yes, that's a first!) that allowed me my first pair of European jeans (although I'm still too short for them) and my first time to run out in the summer sun with the size still ON the jeans, which is something I would be careful not to do again unless I find myself dropping down to a size 20 (not happening in the near future).

In the same way that all of these firsts came flying from all directions, sometimes happening exactly as planned, and sometimes not, I was quite clueless that a new job was waiting just around the corner. At the same time, I just couldn't wait to get my hands dirty in the mud for an opportunity like it!

To say the least, it was quite a delight (this is a word I never used to say—not until I started getting into the habit of afternoon tea at an English tearoom near work) to receive a call from a certain Monsieur Bourasset, telling me the dates and times that I was to report to work in the role of secretary. Apparently, this girl was hired! Needless to say, M.B. was My Boss.

The CV I never told anyone I sent out happened to fall into the right place. Now that I'm finally done with my first month of employment for a desk job that I never thought I could get, the same 3-man secretarial team has been rehired (grace a dieu) for the next European Union-related documentaries that the European Commission has funded Propager TV to produce. Quel bonheur! These are the top five things I have learned.

1. "Life is what happens to you while you are busy making other plans."

- John Lennon

Take things as they come. But also, know when to make a choice.

At first, don't be too picky with your job. Don't say "I promised myself I would never work as a waitress so I'm gonna wait until something better comes along." Any experience is better than being too picky and not taking a chance and not picking up the good things about what does just come along.

In my experience, a good attitude goes a long way. Decision-making is a very big responsibility and if done with the right attitude then one's work is easy. It's really about choice. Will you choose to be preventive (you make lists so you don't forget, lists so you follow procedure, etc.) or reactive (problem-solving, trouble shooting)?

Will you choose to accept that others with more experience know more than you do or will you insist that you are in the right? Will you choose to accept responsibility for your action or choose to blame others for mistakes? There are a lot of choices really, even as you wake up. You have the power to make your day a good day if you choose to do so. Smile or frown? Laugh or cry? To be *bugnot* or not to be?

Mistakes do happen—don't dwell on that...move on.

2. Don't take things personally. Know what you can or can't do, and believe in yourself.

Make a well-balanced CV that can show not only your achievements but also your personality. Employers look for dynamic, organized, positive people. But, do not get frustrated by rejection or criticism, use them to motivate yourself to do better.

There will be a clash of personalities, egos, etc. and if one is not careful—there is a chance that things will become personal. Keep your perspective.

"To laugh often and much; to win the respect of intelligent people and the affection of children; to earn the appreciation of honest critics and endure the betrayal of false friends; to appreciate beauty, to find the best in others; to leave the world a little better; whether by a healthy child, a garden patch or a redeemed social condition; to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. This is the meaning of success."

-Ralph Waldo Emerson

"Nothing others do is because of you. What others say and do is a projection of their own reality, their own dream. When you are immune to the opinions and actions of others, you won't be the victim of needless suffering..."

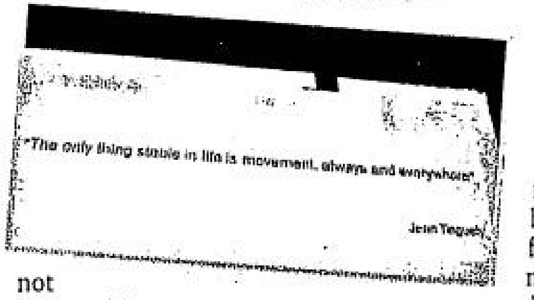
-Don Miguel Ruiz, The Four Agreements

Life isn't about you all the time. If someone says something to you, it is a product of their perception of their own reality. It is not about you, but about them. Many times we hear people say and do negative things against us, this shouldn't pull you down, because it is really about them and how they perceive other people. We should not get trapped in their realities by taking what they say or do personally.

3. Have other options, make a Plan B in case Plan A does not work out.

Once you have had experience in certain fields, challenge yourself. Apply for a dream job you don't think you'll get but make sure you have a backup.

Make friends with someone else in the office. This will make work more bearable and will definitely help you go to work when you don't feel like it.



"The only thing stable in life is movement, always and everywhere"

Jean Teguely

Ask questions if you're not sure about something—this may seem obvious but when you start working you sometimes feel intimidated by your bosses and don't really feel comfortable approaching them. But, from what I've learned, it is definitely better to face your fears and ask your boss.

"Find the courage to ask questions and to express what you really want. Communicate with others as clearly as you can to avoid misunderstandings, sadness and drama. With just this one agreement, you can completely transform your life."

-Don Miguel Ruiz, The Four Agreements

Hay naku. This is the best. Many times we fall into this trap. We always assume that the other person is mad or feeling this and that or said this or did that but most of the time it isn't so. This is where you hear, *"Akala ko kasi..."* So even if it's quite obvious, but there is this teeny weeny doubt in your head, clear the air!!!

Get it out there, ask and you shall receive the right answer. It is better when you have the actual word to hold on to than just have all these thoughts in your head, then *mali pala.*"

Listen well. Learn as much as you can.

4. In operations...

Be organized with all your files. *Ayusin mo para pag may hahanapin ka makikita mo agad.* Use an organizer to list all the things that you need to do for the day so you won't forget. Be attentive. Listen to all the instructions from your boss. If it's break time take your break to avoid stress. *Wag mo ako gayahin nalilipasan ng gutom!*

Gain your boss's trust: normally the easiest way to do this is to be very efficient in the beginning and finish work early. Once this happens, they'll pretty much give you assignments with no strict deadlines and will be much more flexible with timings.

I can only tell you what to wear. I think you're conscientious enough when it comes to work. Choose a brand or look that would suit your job. Something chic and cheap.

Get your hands dirty (and why not dress the role, and look good while at it?).

Realize that there are many facets to work. On one hand, it needs to be something you love and enjoy, and on the other, it needs to pay the bills, give you experience, and teach you valuable life lessons. Make sure that you don't forget this balance when searching for a job.

5. Always do your best

"Your best is going to change from moment to moment; it will be different when you are healthy as opposed to sick. Under any circumstance, simply do your best, and you will avoid self-judgment, self-abuse and regret..."

-Don Miguel Ruiz, The Four Agreements

Need I say more? Even if you have to make coffee for your boss, make the best damn coffee. When you do your best, there are no regrets.

Other essential points are as follows:

"*Kapag gutom ka*—you will work harder! You will be more ambitious!"

"Focuuuuuuuus! Dance before boys!"

You have to see a job not only for face value but for what it can bring towards your goals in the future. If you've got the time, someone's birthday's coming up, or you just feel like doing something different one morning (and you happen to have your paycheck in hand), get "The Four Agreements" by Don Miguel Ruiz. Or grab your first Bible.

Or think up your first philosophy. Or better yet, chill with the friends you choose as family and forget about the paycheck for the first time in years—because the best things in life are free!

Choice *din ito*, right?

KC would like to thank : **Tita Marni O.**(I do remember the card. Love you!), **Tita Agot I.** (U da bes, bebe!), **Cokie B.**(Re-joys!), **Nikki P.** (Don't touch my eggshells), **Ariel L.**(A tres bientot!), Anuja G.(See u in europe hun!), Envelope (*Haha lam mo na kung sino ka*), **Tito Freddie S.** (for Superman), **Yek da Bru Froufrou, Pierra C.** (my shining star), and to **Ralph Waldo Emerson** (though I should maybe be thanking **Bessie Stanley** instead.)

EXUDING joie de vivre while enjoying the Parisian sun.

(While we were laying out this column, KC just called from Paris, where she is now with best buddies Alex Escat, who is visiting from Madrid and Steph Zubiri. We're jealous KC!—Tim)

CHECK this out.

Tessa and Tim on Super! radio

ON SUPER! RADIO. K-Lite's Nigel Gamalong, Tim, Tessa, and Gingy

INQUIRER'S dynamic duo Tessa Prieto-Valdes and Tim Yap will take turns hogging the mic when you listen to them talk about today's issue of Super! on Super radio.

Tessa will talk about her Swatch Olympic experience in Athens, Greece while Tim will take on the tally for the K Lite weekly countdown.

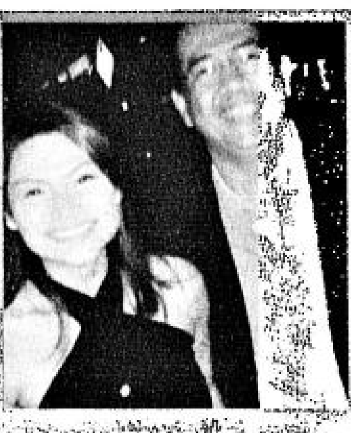
Let's see if these partners in time make it to the K Lite studios for Super! radio, today, 11 a.m. till 12 noon on 103.5 K lite.

LA GRETA with [illegible] Barretto cousins Lizette and Karen

SIDE B New member [illegible] with Joey [illegible]

[illegible]

DREAM CHICKS Denise Montecillo and Ann Dy


DREAM STRAIGHT Cathy Salceda and Cito Beltran

PIED piper Nyoy Volante

POWER DREAMERS [illegible] and Chavit Singson

DREAM TRIO Domini Primero, Gretch and Jojo Manlongat

For the lovers, the dreamers and me...

Photos by Tim Yap

THERE is nothing that can keep media mogul **Tony Boy Cojuangco** from dreaming.

Last Tuesday, Dream Bar became the venue for yet another one of his visions that came to reality—and I'm not talking about Gretchen (yet).

Dream FM 106, with a tagline that reads "The Comfortable Choice," awoke the metro with its savvy sounds, meant for "the sophisticated, trendy and accomplished decision makers," whispered Dream weavers **Reggie Galura** and **Mari Lagdameo**, who were busy strumming with their guests, a hodge podge of AAA listers who all share their penchant for dreaming.

Dream eye-catchers were aplenty. **Dawn Zulueta-Lagdameo** was rightly elevated on the Dream Bar pedestal, taking photos of friends and family in random reverie. On the other end of the room was ABC 5 First Lady **Gretchen Barretto**, who was in the company of good friends and Barretto cousins **Karen and Lizette**.

Of course, the night won't be complete without a head to toe examination of the Queen of Bling. She was wearing a Viktor and Rolf top paired with Juicy Couture and giant Kristine Jewellery 6750 diamond earrings.

On La Greta's VVIP table were a spread of assorted cheeses, salmon and caviar pie—so I stayed with her. Later, **Assunta Da Rossi** joined us, in a sexy caramel Mix top that made heads turn—I'm sure it spewed some other form of dream among the guys in the party.

My new favorite artist **Nyoy Volante** performed. **Richard Merck**, the guys of Side A, Dawn, and even Assunta took turns on the Dream stage, singing their hearts out to the widely awake dreamers.

I spotted ABC 5 bigwig **Bobby Barreiro** grinning from ear to ear, night dreaming with the other guests who were all boozed up as the band played on.

If the music played at Dream bar that night were to be the yardstick of the new radio station's success, then I guess this nation will be "dreaming" some more.

Dream on, baby!

DREAM COUPLE Gretchen Barretto and Tony Boy Cojuangco

106 DREAM FM

Tim Yap

DAWN Zulueta-Lagdameo: my dream [illegible]

SASSY DREAMS [illegible] and Precy Ejercito

GENETIC DREAM Nicole Anderson and [illegible]

DREAM [illegible]

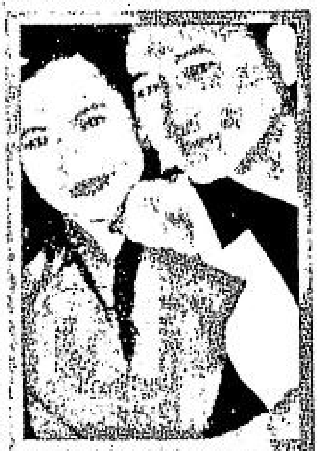
DREAM man Reggie [illegible]

ASSUNTA Da Rossi [illegible]

DREAM [illegible] Montenegro and [illegible] Estrada

[illegible]

DREAM GALS Victoria [illegible] and [illegible]


ABC DUO Ali Sotto and Richard Merck

MUSIC DREAMERS Louie Ocampo and Mari Lagdameo

DREAM MUSE [illegible]

DREAM boys Butch Lagdameo and Bobby Barreiro

SHOW AND DREAM Annabelle Rama and Eddie Gutierrez

ARTIST'S DREAM [illegible]

DREAMING DUDES. Mikey Cojuangco and Choy [illegible]

[illegible]

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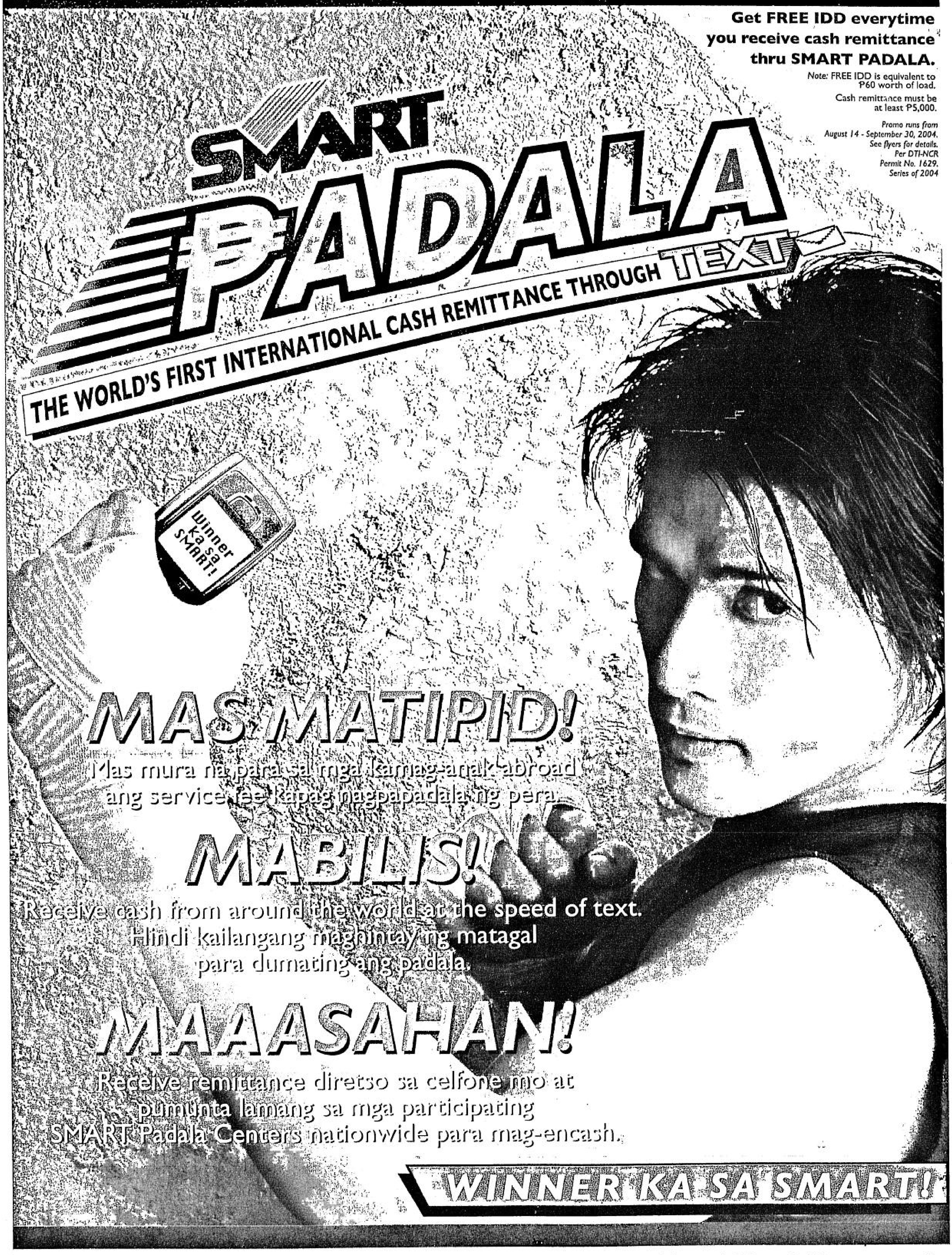
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MAAASAHAN!

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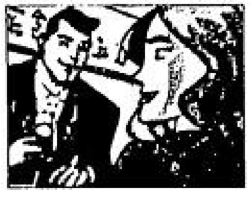
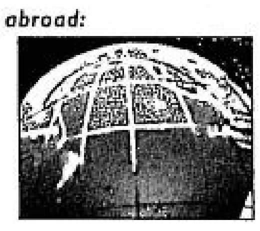
Ngayon, puwede ka nang makatanggap ng cash sa celfone! Sing bilis ng text!

Here's how SMART Padala works:

OFW remits cash from abroad:

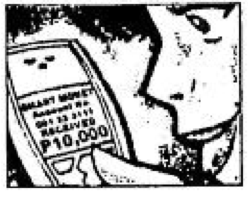


❶ Sabihin sa kamag-anak abroad na pumunta lang sa SMART Padala Remittance Partner para magpadala ng cash.

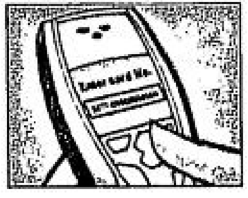


❷ Ipapadala ng SMART Padala Remittance Partner abroad ang pera diretso sa celfone mo.

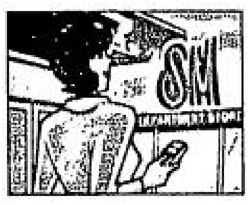
Beneficiary receives cash in the Philippines:



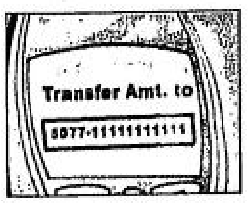
❸ Agad kang makakatanggap ng text message with the SMART Money Account Number at ang halaga ng cash na pinadala sa iyo.



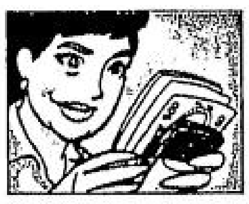
❹ I-activate ang SMART Money Account Number sa celfone mo.



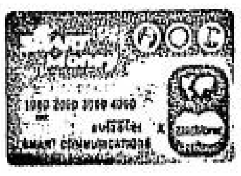
❺ Pumunta sa alinmang participating SMART Padala Center sa Pilipinas.



❻ Ilipat ang cash na natanggap sa celfone mo sa SMART Money Account ng SMART Padala Center.*



❼ Kunin ang cash.**



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Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 4382, Series of 2004.

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Do you have a relationship with money?

By Marge C. Enriquez

AS A student in the Martial Law era, it was a joke in our sociology class that selling the souls of the entire Philippine (over)population would not be sufficient to pay off the country's debts. Today, the joke—even if merely a metaphor of material poverty resulting from an impoverished spirit—still holds true.

News and graphs of the spiraling costs of living, years of government expropriation of wealth hidden behind bureaucratic terms, reckless spending and a capitalist system that inherently favors the elite and kills the rest of us, are deepening our chronic fears of shortage and of giving up our comforts. This apprehension is based on false assumptions of wealth.

San Francisco-based global activist and fund-raiser Lynne Twist wrote an inspiring book on the link between money and core values. "The Soul of Money: Transforming Your Relationship with Money and Life" (New York/ London: W.W. Norton & Co.) reveals the deep connection between spirituality (not religion), our attitude towards money, and how earning, giving and sharing are on the same par. In Third World *bakya* mentality, the sharing part is toughest. Leave philanthropy to the First World, some Pinoys would say.

Energy exchange

Like most books on prosperity, this one's premise is that money was invented to make it possible to share and exchange goods and services. However, over time, such vices as ego and insatiable desire have surpassed its original practical role. "Now, rather than relating to money as a tool we created and control, we have come to relate to money as if it [were]... a force to be reckoned with," writes Twist. "If we only look at behavior, it tells us that we have made money more important than we are, given it more meaning than human life."

This narrow-minded attitude has led to problems that we read about in the front pages—social inequity, environmental destruction, social irresponsibility, the frailty of economic and political institutions, and the feeble moral fabric of society.

To the rich, money became a curse when they allowed it to alienate them from their core values and relationships. The outcomes are sexual, psychological and substance abuse, alcoholism, brutality, legal battles for the objective of getting more, bribery and/or extortion to keep members quiet about dark secrets.

Also, a consumer society has exalted the fancy sales pitch and our voracious appetite for acquiring the latest status symbols as the measure of self-worth. I know some high-maintenance women who have dedicated their lives to the pursuit of perfection via salons, slimming, surgery and shopping just to be admired and hopefully make it to some glamorous list. The above-mentioned are stuff for the glossies and soft news sections, which sometimes I am "guilty" of reporting.

The root cause of our fear of shortage is the lack of experiencing the wealth of spirit.

Twist cites the litany of dissatisfaction: "We don't have enough time. We don't have enough rest. We don't have enough exercise. We don't have enough work. We don't have enough profits. We don't have enough power... Of course, we don't have enough money—ever. We're not thin enough, we're not smart enough, we're not pretty enough or fit enough or educated or successful enough or rich enough—ever... What begins as a simple expression of the challenged life, grows into the great justification for an unfulfilled life. It becomes the reason we can't have what we want or be who we want to be, the reason people disappoint us, the reason we compromise our integrity, give up on ourselves or write off others."

> An inspiring book discusses how people have given it more meaning than human life

This assumption is born out of a false argument that we live in scarcity and that we are in constant threat that our needs will never be fulfilled. This has become the lens through which we see the world and live through it.

Myths

Twist debunks the scarcity myths:

There's not enough. We complain about the shortage of food, water, oil and its inverse proportion to our burgeoning population. In our milieu, it's also the cause of crab mentality or putdowns and the culture of kowtowing to people of perceived power, and grabbing at the expense of others.

Twist explains, "We respond to the fear that there's not enough by creating systems that favor us or exclude others from access to basic resources... In our own families, 'there's not enough' drives us to buy more than we need or even want."

More is better. The scarcity myth leads us to establish ourselves on material success and external achievements. People get jobs or become minor celebrities because of their looks and clothes, rather than their contributions to creating a richer life. The success of a television show or a publication is judged by the number of advertisements and ratings, instead of the quality of its contents or its potential to change people's lives.

This myth is the cause of the rat race, characterized by competition and acquisition. It sidetracks us from enjoying what we have, and from our own qualities.

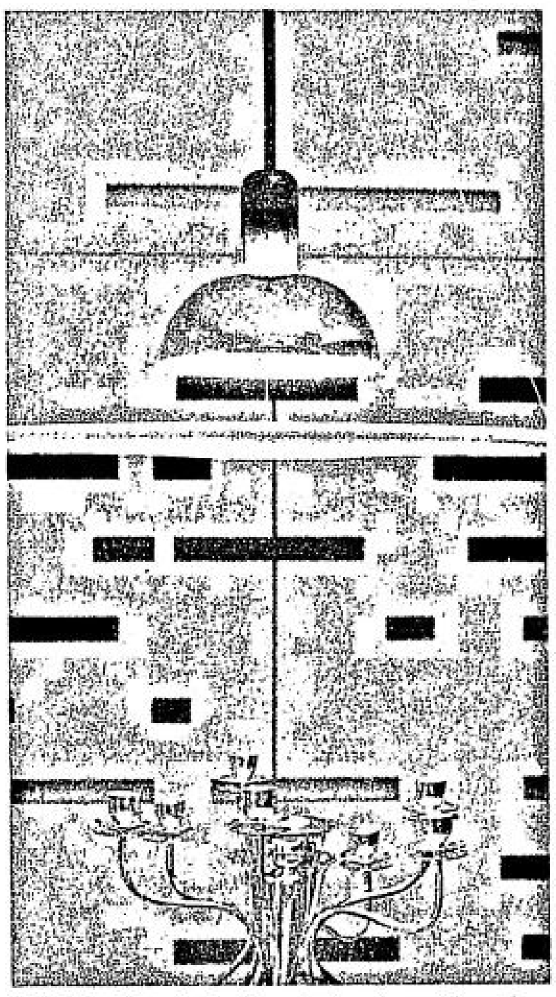
That's just the way it is. This is a justification for why we don't want to change. Also, the perceived lack of money—in short, fear—becomes a defense for holding back from commitment and contributing our inner resources such as creativity, energy and time, to make things better.

The author explains that success should not be defined as earning surplus money. "In the language of scarcity, those who generate large profits from exploitive or unsustainable business practices [appear] more successful than, say, teachers or public servants who earn less, but work to make our communities enlightened, caring, compassionate places to live and work in."

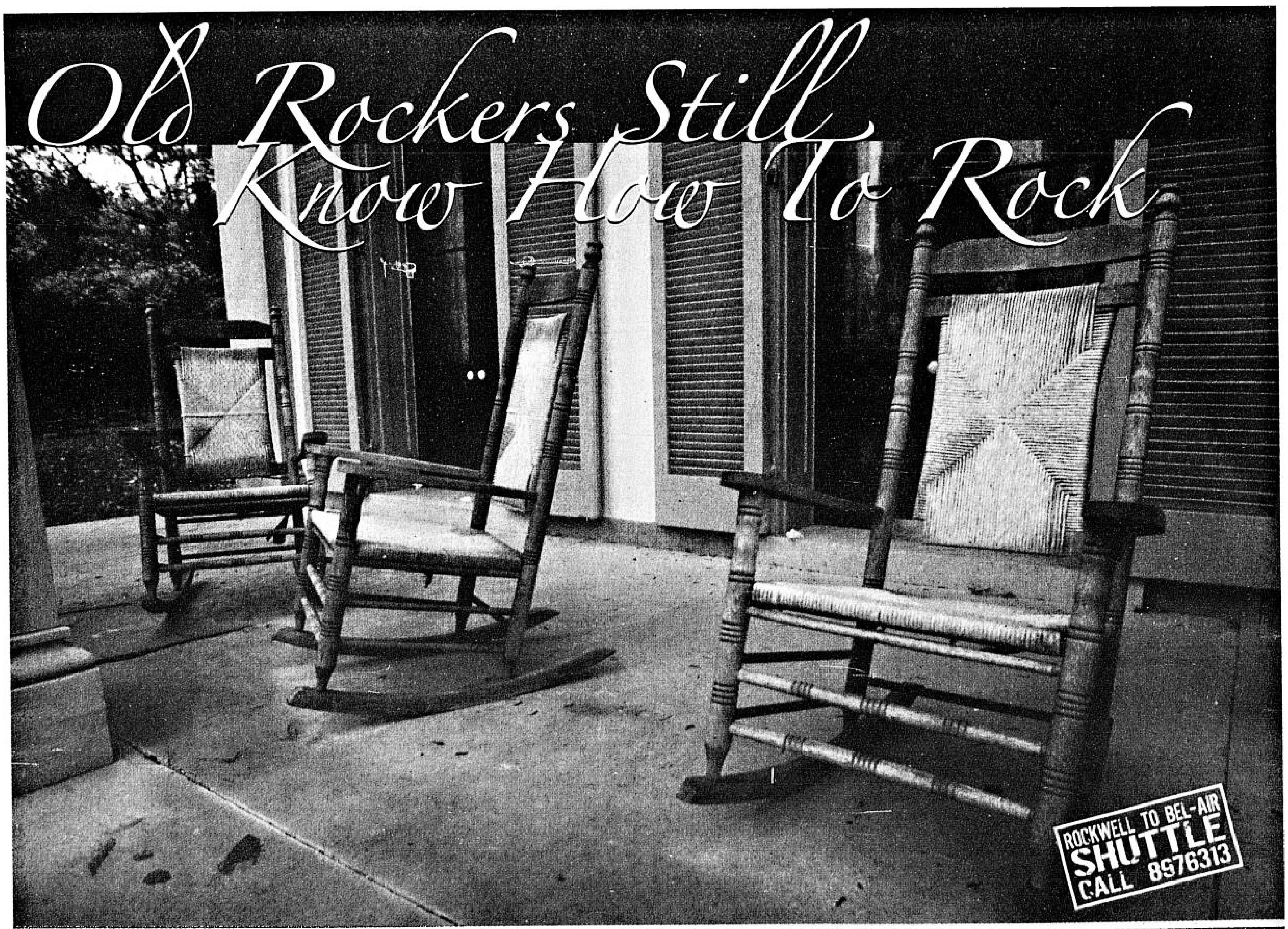
Twist underscores that the word "wealthy" is rooted in well-being, not in cash but in a satisfying life. "Poor" and "poverty" seem to ignore the potential of people who have little money.

If we give priority to developing our virtues and values, our actions will create opportunities that will eventually lead to material prosperity. "Sufficiency is a context we bring forth from within that reminds us that, if we look around us and within ourselves, we will find what we need. There is always enough," says Twist.

This explains why individuals or companies whose businesses are firmly entrenched in values prosper in tough times. For one, their needs are simple. As the saying goes, contentment is the mother of all virtues. More important, their actions benefit the community. Their good karma is their hedge against inflation.



DETAIL of the rhythmic striations in architect Joey Yupangco's wall treatment. He also shows the contrast between practicality and romance with the use of a drop light and a candelabra. ***Story on page 6***



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POWER PLANT MALL

Promo period: September 12, 2004
See posters for details

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. A1-559; Series of 2004.

From GOAT to SHEEP

By Leovino Ma. Garcia
Contributor

HERE is "the biggest, heaviest, most radiant thing ever printed" declared Der Spiegel. That is, "GOAT (Greatest Of All Time): A Tribute to Muhammad Ali," published by Benedikt Taschen.

Four years in the making, it is limited to 10,000 numbered copies, autographed by Muhammad Ali and Jeff Koons. It boasts over 3,000 dazzling images chosen from five million photographs, many published for the first time, by 150 photographers and artists.

It features writings about the Champ for the last five decades, totaling nearly 600,000 words. With more than 800 pages and measuring 50 cm x 50 cm, it tips the scales at 34 kilos. It is bound by the Vatican official bindery in pink leather, the color of Ali's first Cadillac, and pushes state-of-the-art digital technology to the hilt.

The "Champ's Edition" comes in a white silk cover with pink lettering. Limited to 1,000 numbered copies, with four gallery-quality prints signed by Ali and Howard L. Bingham, and an original art piece by Koons, it costs $10,000 per copy. The "Collector's Edition," depicting Ali's torso with pink lettering on the cover, limited to 9,000 numbered copies, retails for $3,000.

Transformation and grace

Jeff Koons, the 48 year-old-icon of today's media-saturated art world, claims he wanted to communicate with the masses with this project. His aim was "to do something without being illustrative" and "to show inclusion, transformation and grace." True to his art, his greatest preoccupation here, it seems, is to deliver the soul of an object.

> Muhammad Ali's amazing grace, in a book that few are bound to possess

For Howard L. Bingham, GOAT's principal photographer and editorial consultant, Ali's emotional intelligence struck him the most. He says Ali "somehow had the instinct to make the right decisions about himself every time, and often did so against the best advice of even those closest to him." He considers Ali as a man who not only "floated as a butterfly and stung like a bee," but one "who stood by his convictions and took a highly unpopular stance at the peak of his career in a country not yet ready for radical change."

But why invest over $10 million on Ali? Muhammad Ali, touted as "the greatest sportsman that walked the earth" is not at all passé. He remains palpably present in every aspect of popular culture, especially in sports and music.

Like a screenplay

As publisher, Taschen felt that his challenge lay in creating a work where "the written word, narrative, and research would be on par with that of the most comprehensive literary biographies." Taschen aimed to turn the logic of a conventional biography on its head by drawing the reader "from the photography into the written story and the texts."

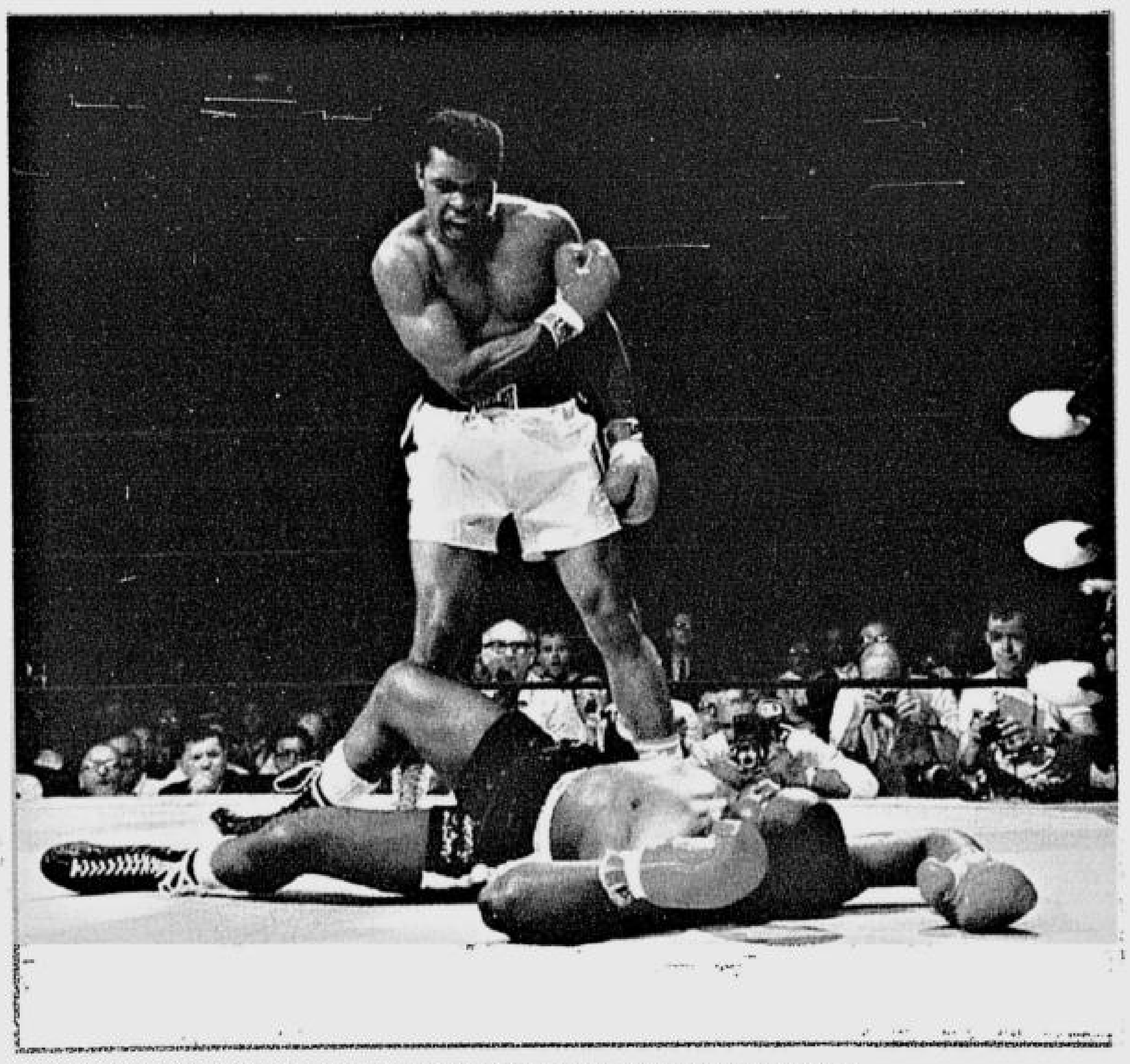
What has come out is "a structured narrative that's like the most detailed screenplay you can imagine." This accounts for an experience that works on many levels, depending on one's mood, sensibilities and even time.

Taschen and his collaborators practice a lesson learned from contemporary French philosophy. According to Paul Ricoeur's hermeneutics, or interpretation of texts, the narrative, by the invention of its plot, integrates multiple and scattered events into a whole and complete story. In this "grasping together" of many events to form a story, the productive imagination goes at work. In the imaginative stringing together of these episodes or events, new meaning is created.

That is why we get instructed by listening to stories or narratives. We come to realize how actions accomplished in the past beget consequences in the future. We gradually learn to interpret human actions. In the process, we learn to become ethical. We strive to do actions that are noble or good and to avoid actions that are evil or base. Stories or narratives then offer us some of the most enduring insights into the human condition. Stories do not only entertain us; they throw light on our lives. They cast a power over us. Paraphrasing Socrates, Ricoeur reminds us: "The unnarrated life is not worth living."

Thrilla in Manila

Filipinos will get a special thrill when they lay their eyes on pages 606 to 616 of this book, dealing with the "Ali-Frazier Fight of a Lifetime" on October 1, 1975 in Manila. But many will surely cringe when they read this excerpt on page 612 from Mark Kram's "Ghosts of Manila":



MUHAMMAD Ali, formerly known as Cassius Clay, shows why he's the greatest.

"A land of *palabas*, dramatic spectacle, it was said of the Philippines. Nothing was small there except the people. The squalor was immense, made worse by pounding heat and sun, relieved only by the monsoons, which drove against the islands like sheaths of warm metal. Outsize disaster had a regularity, overloaded island ferries going down with two thousand aboard, whole settlements even in the city washed away in an instant by floods, and always the promise of even worse, from coughing volcanoes. Certain religious ceremonies—though increasingly viewed in the land as exhibitionistic machismo—portrayed a hunger for more suffering, with parades of bloody self-flagellants and crucifixions. Yet the Filipinos were seen around the world as a remarkably peaceful, passive, fatalistic people, a myth according to one dissident priest who carried a gun while serving mass in what was known as the Church of the Black Nazarene in the noisy Quiapo section."

Crisp, elegant writing imbued with a condescending, "exoticizing" point of view unquestionably adopted by passing foreign journalists!

What seems to be most fascinating about Muhammad Ali is his unique interpretation of his life. In his own words that serve as captions to stunning photographs, he tells us:

"I'd like to be remembered ... as a black man who won the heavyweight title ... and who was humorous ... and who treated everyone right. As a man who never looked down on those who looked up to him ... and who helped as many of his people as he could -- financially ... and also in their fight for freedom, justice and equality."

These are hardly words from someone who often proclaimed: "I am the Greatest!" Instead, they seem to be pronounced by someone who has been transformed by amazing grace and who participates in something greater than himself. And so, it may be more appropriate to give as title to this monumental book, which many will never possess, not "GOAT" but "SHEEP (Sharing Happiness with Everyone, Especially Peace)."

The book will be launched in November at the opening of the Adidas branch at The Gateway in Cubao. For inquiries, contact Adidas Phil. at 638-5888 loc. 302.

Email the author at lgarcia@ateneo.edu

Ohh, my aching shoulders...

Anything we can do to prevent an injury is worth all the trouble

By Dr. Martin Camara
Contributor

WHAT most people call the shoulder is really several joints that combine with tendons and muscles to allow a wide range of motions for the arm—from snapping on a bra to reaching in the back of your car, to combing your hair, to reaching for your back pocket.

This mobility comes at a price. It could lead to problems with instability or impingement of tendons, muscles and ligaments resulting in pain and discomfort. In fact, up to 30 percent of people over the age of 50 will experience a sudden tearing of one of the tendons (*supraspinatus*) of the shoulder without any major trauma. Demographic data from our Intercare Clinics rank shoulder pain as the second most common condition, next only to lower back pain.

Why is this so?

Since the shoulders are essentially the most flexible and yet the most unstable articulations in the body, they are also the most likely to be affected by small stresses over time. Something as routine as tapping away at a computer, or sitting behind a desk for long periods can cause significant strain.

The symptoms vary from a feeling of tiredness or heaviness (*ngawit* or *ngalay*), to a deep dull ache, to a sharp pain. It may come during movement or at rest. Or you may feel pain due to impingement when your arms are raised upwards and outwards. In some cases, it becomes a nagging pain and is often troublesome at night. If you have ever suffered from a shoulder injury, you will understand how incredibly frustrating it can be. It can make exercise nearly impossible. Daily activities such as driving, sipping a cup of coffee and eating can become difficult. You are bound to develop an acute sense of appreciation for the shoulder, or an awareness of how much we depend on it—a joint we take for granted until it starts malfunctioning!

Most shoulder problems involve the soft tissues—muscles, ligaments and tendons—rather than bones. And these problems fall into three major categories:

1) **Tendonitis.** Tendons are cords that connect muscle to bone, and tendonitis is generally a result of a wearing process over a period of time. The most common type of tendonitis is the Rotator Cuff injury. A group of muscles and tendons run behind the scapula into the arm. Muscles help stabilize the shoulder and are used for movement. They may actually tear or become impinged. This may happen as a result of overuse during sports or work-related activities, or of invariable wear and tear.

2) **Frozen Shoulder (adhesive capsulitis).** Directly below the tendons of the shoulder is a dense band of ligaments that cover the bones. These are the "capsular ligaments." They generally help stabilize the shoulder joint and are normally elastic, like rubber bands. When a tendonitis or bursitis is left untreated for prolonged periods, the inflammation comes into contact with the capsule. This creates a chemical reaction that hardens the capsule, and the once-elastic capsule becomes fibrous and sticky. Your arm is "frozen." There is hardly any movement allowed. This is an extremely painful condition, and may take months of therapy, or possibly even surgery, to correct. Sometimes injections of lidocaine or steroids can provide a lot of relief.

Normal shoulder

NEXT to the lower back, the shoulder is the most susceptible to pain.

3) **Arthritis.** There are many types of arthritis, but it essentially involves wear and tear and inflammation of the joint, causing swelling, pain and stiffness. Other types, like rheumatoid arthritis and *ankylosing spondilitis*, are more devastating. They could result in an actual "eating up or fusing" of the joint by your own immune system.

There are other rare causes of shoulder pains, such a bone tumors, infections or referred or nerve-related problems originating from the neck.

Treatment:

Since pain is usually just a warning that something is wrong, it is always best to seek medical advice at the soonest possible time especially if the pain is intense. Remember that the first two to three days are crucial to a complete and speedy recovery.

The first and most important course of action is to follow the RICE program: Rest, Ice, Compression and Elevation (over the level of the heart). This usually helps minimize the inflammation that is building up. After the initial three days, the flow of blood, oxygen and nutrients to the injured area should be increased. The best way to do this is to use moist hot packs or hot water bottles and heat lamps. Heat-based sprays or creams are not as effective.

Massage is also one of the best ways to increase blood flow to an area while reducing the amount of scar tissue that comes with all muscle and tendon injuries. It is always best to act quickly. In general, the wait could cause the " shoulder in trouble" cycle of increasing pain, stiffness, immobility and muscle weakness. Physical therapy may consist of moist heat or cold packs that relieve pain and inflammation while promoting circulation.

Ultrasound and some electrical stimulation of the muscles and tendons will pump out the inflammation, strengthen the tissues and call repair cells to the area. Adjustments and gentle manipulation by a chiropractor may prevent the buildup of adhesions that limit mobility. Adjustments to the back may also help remedy the accompanying muscle spasms in the upper back and neck.

Prevention:

Anything you can do to prevent an injury from occurring is worth the trouble. The prevention of shoulder injuries comes with the conditioning of shoulder muscles and tendons, which ultimately involves both stretching and strengthening of the shoulder joint.

Also, don't forget common injury-prevention techniques like warming up properly before a strenuous activity and using old-fashioned common sense. For the most part, however, stretching and strengthening are your best defense. Even if you don't have a shoulder problem now, the following stretching and strengthening exercises could save you from a major headache in the future.

Exercises:

1) Arm circles: Gently place your fingers on your shoulder and rotate the shoulder in small circles forward, then backward. Repeat, with larger circles.

2) Pendulum: Let your arm hang free while holding a 2- to 5- pound weight. Gently trace circles in each direction.

3) Wall Walking: Facing the wall, slowly walk your fingers up as high as the pain permits. Keep your shoulders level.

4) Rubber Tubing or External Rotation Exercises: Lie on your side with a 5 pound dumbbell and with your elbow close to your body, arms bent at 90 degrees, gently rotate your arm up and out 10 times.

For any questions email: drmartin@intercare-centers.com.

To dive for

A WOMAN diver broke world records by descending 525 feet underwater in a single breath, and staying down for up to six minutes a stretch.

Tanya Streeter now holds the multiple world record in free diving for both men and women. She recently joined Swiss watchmaker Tag Heuer's roster of international ambassadors.

"Like Tiger Woods, Kimi Raikkonen, Marion Jones, Steve McQueen and the rest of the Tag Heuer team, Tanya embodies the core values of the brand: performance, precision and prestige. A true professional, she pushes herself to the limit and has completely revolutionized her sport," said president and CEO Jean Christophe Babin.

In 2002, Streeter set the records in "No Limits" free diving when she was dropped to the astounding depth of 160 meters (525 ft) on a weighed sled off the coast of Miami. In 2003, off the coast of the Turks and Caicos Islands, the 30-year-old British athlete shattered the women's and men's "Variable Weight" record by diving to a depth of 122 meters (400 ft) in one breath and returning to the surface on her own power. That dive marked the eighth time she broke a world record. Streeter was voted best female free diver for 2003 by the Swiss-based sports governing body, International Center for Apnea Recognition and Education.

Streeter's collaboration with Tag Heuer resulted in the introduction of the new 2000 Aquaracer, a unique 300-meter (990 ft) waterproof prestigious sports watch. The latest and most boldly styled Tag Heuer 2000 Series possesses all the technical characteristics of the professional diver's watch, yet its design is classic.'

The unidirectional turning bezel, with its aluminium ring and precision ratchet, is a strong and emblematic design component that makes the 2000 Aquaracer instantly recognizable as a diving watch. The large-sized Arabic numerals on the ring stand out in high contrast to its base coloration. Aside from the luminescent hands, hour markers and bezel scale, special luminescent material has been added to the tip of the second hand, enabling the diver to quickly verify that the watch is working, no matter the external conditions. Water resistance is now increased to 300 meters (990 ft) without compromise on elegance.

DIVER Tanya Streeter's qualities are embodied in this new sportswatch.

Big surprises in little metal bowls

The Indian thali food festival at Pen's Spices

By Meluchi A. Rivera
Contributor

UNTIL mid-October, Spices at The Peninsula Manila offers diners a novel way to experience Indian cuisine. The sub-continent's exoticism is evoked through the *thali*, a metal serving plate that lends its name to a most interesting kind of meal.

In a *thali* meal, a platter is laden with a half-dozen or so *katoris* (little metal bowls), each filled with a different dish. This style of eating is common in Southern India but is relatively unfamiliar to foreigners, who would be more likely to order individual dishes of *tandooris*, *samosas* or curries. In contrast, *thali* meals are all-inclusive and complete. There would be a careful selection of soup or appetizer, *basmati* rice, freshly made *chapati*, several entreés and dessert.

For Spices' *thali* fest, Indian specialty chef Bairagi Sahani has put together two such meals on exquisite, specially-shipped copper serving wares.

His vegetarian platter (P950++) features *rasam*, lentils in a clear soup flavored with coriander root, ginger, pepper and tamarind; *dal panchranga*, stewed lentils in onion and tomato; *mangalore subzee*, mixed vegetable curry; and *aloo bharta*, potatoes cooked with ginger, onion and chili, perhaps more familiar to most as the filling for vegetarian *samosas*.

The non-vegetarian platter (P1,100++) has *murgh shorba*, clear chicken soup; *mangalore jhinga*, succulent jumbo prawns in creamy curry sauce; *sukha gosht*, dry lamb curry; and *abhial*, vegetables in coconut milk.

Both *thalis* are accompanied by *basmati chawal*, fragrant Indian rice perfumed with cardamon, cinnamon, cloves and bay leaves; crispy *chapati* and *papadam;* dessert and *masala chhas*, a cooling yogurt drink spiked with ginger, coriander and mint.

Crash course

Chef Sahani briefed this writer, in halting English, on the nuances of regional Indian cooking. Thus, I learned that in Northern India, the cuisine tends to emphasize the blend of spices, rather than just heat; and the carbohydrates of choice are grains and bread. In Southern India, meanwhile, the curries tend to be hotter, sauces incorporate more coconut milk, and rice is the more prominent accompaniment to each meal.

INDIAN viands, soups and sauces are served in *katoris* or metal bowls, all on a *thali* (metal under plate).

Oddly enough, the term "curry" is not native to the country, but was coined by the English as a catch-all phrase to cover the varied but distinct flavors of Indian cooking. Indian dishes use up to 25 spices—saffron, turmeric, coriander, cardamom, nutmeg, poppy seeds, caraway seeds, cumin, mace, cloves and the more common cinnamon, ginger, onions, garlic and, of course, chilies—in a single dish. These are always freshly ground together by hand, using a mortar and pestle.

While this writer has long been a fan of Indian cuisine and spicy food in general, I have to admit that there is a downside to being presented with a large number of dishes at a meal. As I ate my meal away, the tastes tended to all meld together in a clear case of "palate fatigue." Thus, aside from the *abhial* and *mangalore jhinga* curries, what stood out for me were those dishes that deviated from the coconut milk-with-coriander-cumin-and-chili route.

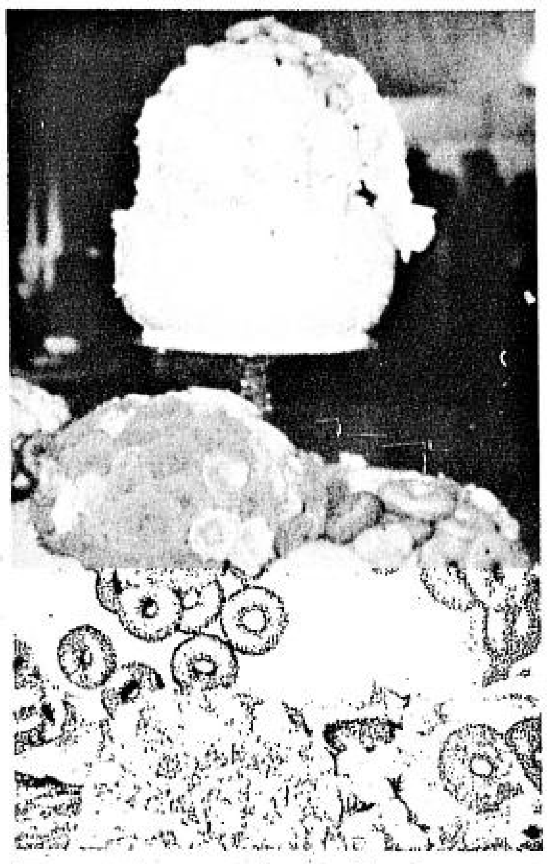
Tastes familiar

Among the vegetarian *thali* dishes, I found *rasam* soup, much like our own *sinigang*, but packing more heat, and with an underlying roasted flavor from the lentils. The *dal panchranga*, pleasingly earthy and almost creamy in consistency, was my other pick. The non-vegetarian platter, meanwhile, had the winning *murgh shorba*, not unlike *tinola*, but again with added punch from the coriander.

Other potential hits with local diners would be the delightful desserts. In the vegetarian platter, Chef Sahani included *suji halwa*, a pudding made from ground wheat simmered with syrup and flavored with various nuts, in this case, cashews. In the non-vegetarian thali, there's the pleasingly sweet treat called Phirni, rice pudding with thickened milk and flavored with saffron. These should go over well with locals who will find that, like us, the Indians have an extensive range of rice puddings to satisfy their sweet tooth.

As a final note, most Filipino diners may not find the accompanying *masala chas* drink to their liking. However, with its ability to soothe spice-charred tongues, I daresay that at the end of the meal, the *masala* will be much appreciated.

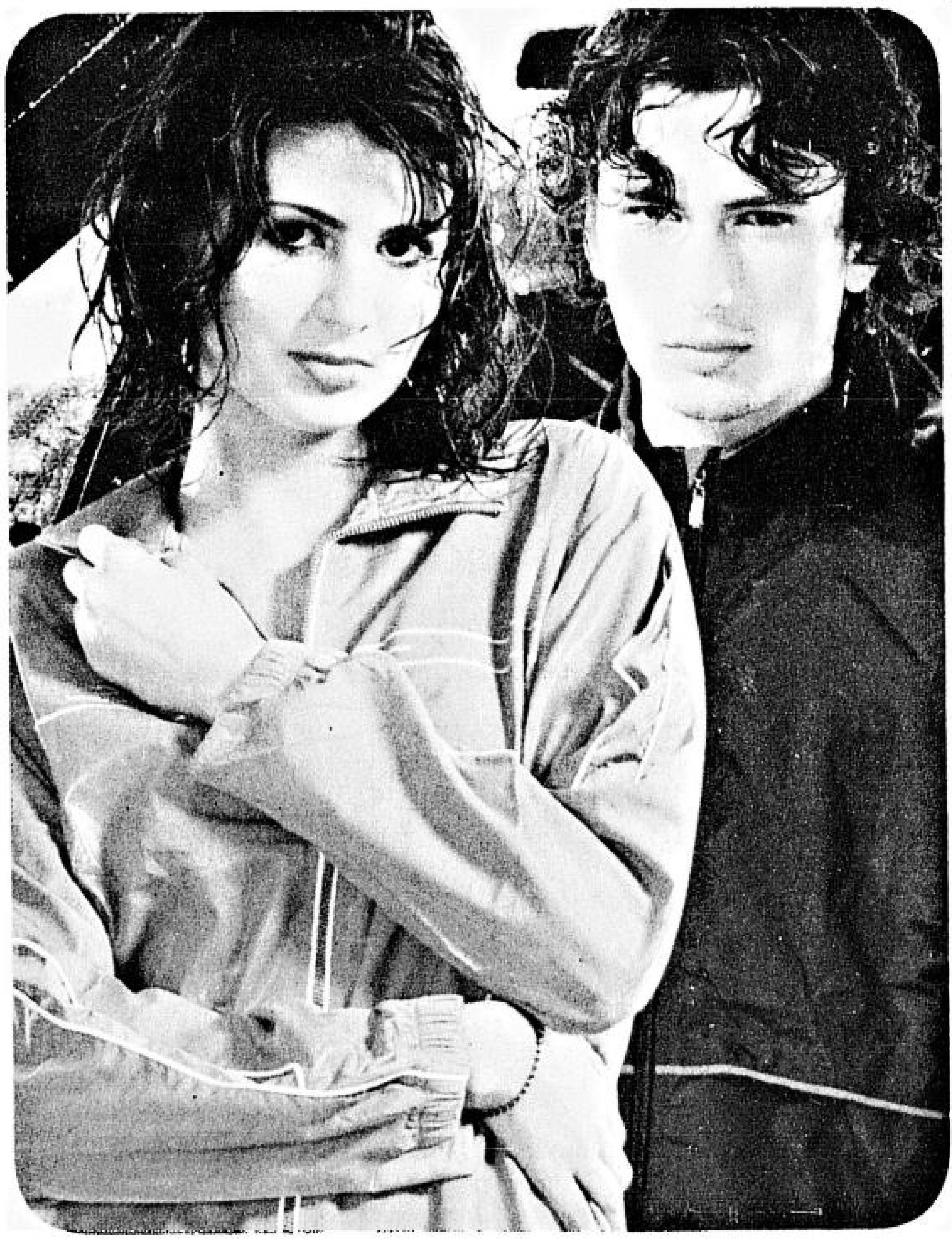
The Indian Thali food festival at Spices Restaurant runs through Oct. 17.

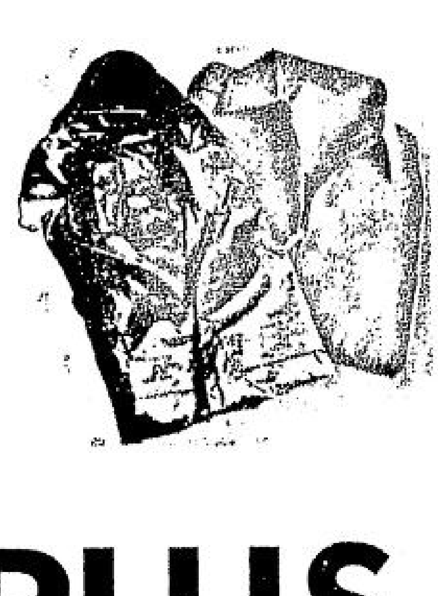


Putting the fun in wedding cakes

CALL it a marriage of marketing and art. Baker Heny Sison collaborated with Go Nuts Donuts to make the wedding cake for the Lagdameo-Trillana reception. Sison called it a satellite cake because it reminiscent of the Sputnik. Cake and doughnut topiaries were spread out at the dessert station against a sugary landscape. The banana nut cake that served as the base was covered with fondant. The biggest layer of the satellite cake was shaped like a doughnut. A dessert topiary set on a crystal cake stand emerged from the hole.

Go Nuts Donuts also served its famous melted white chocolate glaze. Sison colored the sweets in pistachio, rose and candy pink. The bride supplied wedding favors, such as Swarovski crystals, that adorned the fondant icing.





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SURPLUS SHOP
FASHION FOR LESS

SM Supermalls • SM Department Stores • SM Supercenter Sucat

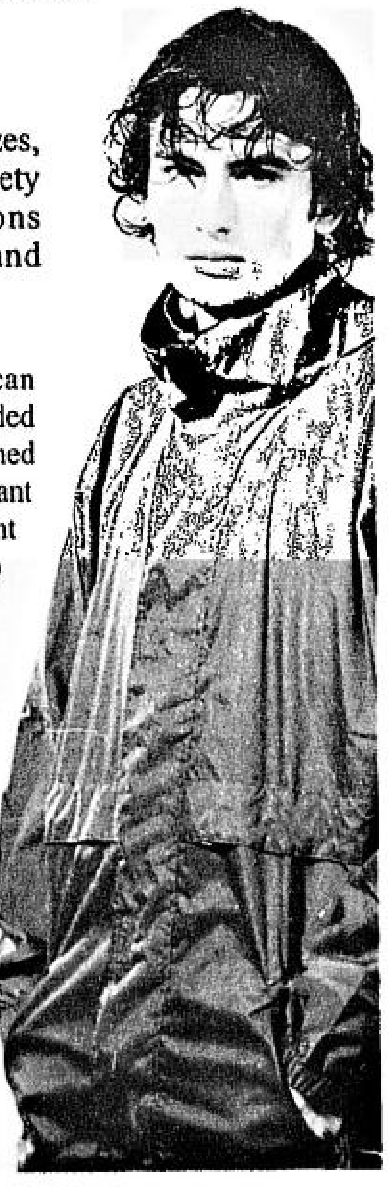
SURPLUS SHOP best buys
Shoppers keen on new line of
WEATHER-PROOF JACKETS

Keeping warm and dry while looking great during the wet and windy monsoon days could be a challenge to one's pocket and fashion sense.

To address this seasonal need, Surplus Shop has lined up a wide selection of weather-proof jackets with front-zip closure. The jackets are currently the hottest buys at Surplus Shop, the **fashion for less** apparel store located within selected branches of SM Department Store and SM Supermalls.

Available in several sizes, the jackets come in a variety of 2-color combinations accented with bands and pipings.

Fashion-wise shoppers can choose from collared or hooded styles. Inner linings are designed from soft fleece or wind-resistant nylon-polyester. The wide front pockets are either zipped up or fastened with velcro.



Reinventing Le Soleil

By Marge C. Enriquez

IN THE months of the *habagat* (seasonal southwest winds), Boracay island doesn't look anywhere near the "Crown Jewel of the Philippines" that it's touted to be.

White Beach is almost unrecognizable as windbreakers, made from wooden scaffolding, net and even tarpaulins in ghastly proportions, shield the resorts and passersby from the sands blown by the winds. The beach front is a mess with debris from the sea—dried branches, algae, moss, and the occasional garbage from nearby Semirara island. The fabled powdery white sand is brownish and gluey.

June to November is supposedly Boracay's low season, but workers in the hospitality industry say they are as busy as ever, serving an international market consisting of Koreans, Westerners and overseas Filipinos.

Once a haven for backpackers, Boracay has been positioning itself as a world-class destination. Beach front accommodation is a luxury. During the peak months, rates at the high-end resorts range from P8,000 to P10,000 a night, including a forgettable breakfast. For the same rate, one could stay at the business floor of a deluxe Makati hotel and enjoy more perks, such as luxury toiletries, a delectable breakfast buffet, all-day snacks, afternoon tea, cocktails, and use of a well-equipped gym, sauna or jacuzzi and swimming pool.

New resident manager Jaime Coscolluela took one look and pushed with all his might for a P50-M spruce-up

Expectations

With more rooms and restaurants to open by next year, Boracay resort managers are challenged with setting high standards of professionalism. They realize only too well that the market is well-traveled, discriminating and extremely demanding. Although these tourists come to Boracay to experience nature, they still expect the uncompromising efficiency of civilization.

As resident manager of Le Soleil de Boracay, Jaime Coscolluela has taken up the cudgels of reinventing the product. He knows whereof he speaks. He's been in the hotel business since 1975, starting with Holiday Inn. He felt his way around Boracay with Club Panoly. "I saw the potential in the island—that it could generate more income if things were in order. In the early '90s, everything was a mom-and-pop operation. I said it couldn't work."

He joined Waling Waling Resort, which promptly became the favorite of the hoity-toity crowd. When he moved to the 46-room Le Soleil de Boracay last February, he was bewildered. "The hotel was cramped. The rooms at the back were decent but I wouldn't pay for the ones in front. They had small windows and the heavy rattan shades made them look darker. I felt claustrophobic. The paint-over up front was mottled. It looked messy."

Mismatched bathroom tubs, bowls and fixtures made him grimace. Guests in some of the rooms complained of reverberating walls caused by the blaring music from next-door establishments.

The resort's Rendezvous Restaurant was far from inviting, with its stiff interiors and the Mediterranean cuisine that fell short of expectations. Adding to the confusion was Tequila Joe's (Le Soleil owner Jean-Henri Lhuillier, is the board chair of the successful chain). Tourists did not know if it was a bar or a restaurant. In all, the resort was not making money.

Renovations

On his first month, Coscolluela had a long talk with Lhuillier, who is also executive vice-president and general manager of the PJ Lhuillier Inc. Group of Companies.

Coscolluela recalls: "I told him, 'You have a nice beach front property. You have a name. But you must improve your product to go with your reputation.'"

Architect Camilo Vasquez was called in for renovations. The color scheme will be a mix of earth tones with bright color accents, the lanai area around the pool will be expanded, bathrooms will be minimalist with Asian elements. The Mediterreanean-style architecture will be maintained, but made a little less boxy. Arches and trellises will soften the façade of the three-storey building up front. There will be Asian touches in furniture, ceiling treatment and soft furnishing. Rendezvous Restaurant will have a rustic Asian decor and Tequila Joe's will be set up on the second floor, with a casual set-up of an open deck, littered with large pillows and low tables. A new wing with larger rooms will be added by next year.

Coscolluela was persistent. Certain changes had to be effected immediately. First, he worked on the food and beverage, separating the operations of Tequila Joe's and Rendezvous. He hired an experienced chef to replace the below-par Mediterranean menu with honest-to-goodness Filipino cuisine.

During the peak months of March to May, he introduced dinner buffets. The staffers were resistant to the idea, especially since it was priced at P300, almost double the competitors' rates. The buffet had oysters, mussels, salads, grilled items and, on weekends, *lechon* , for an additional P50. The logic, explains Coscolleula, was that diners didn't have to wait 30 minutes, the average service time along The Strip.

The freshness of the buffet brought in the expected sales volume. In the first five months of 2004, food and beverage sales equaled last year's total revenues. As of this writing, rooms have posted a 35 percent increase in gross revenues compared to August last year.

Coscolluela said selling rooms can't be too formulaic. "Sell a package. Let the clients feel they are getting a good deal by upgrading them to the next category room and are getting a discount of P1,000 to P1,500." He employed the same tack for Le Soleil de Boracay, so that even the lower-priced rooms were booked.

The P50-million renovation will begin in October.

Projections

Coscolluela has got his numbers down. "I told Jean-Henri, 'If you support me here, there will be a turnaround. Within a two-year period, you'll double your revenue from what you've been earning.'" He estimated that if one room earns at least P1 million a year—and there are 46 existing rooms—the resort will get a return of investment in three years.

Le Soleil's selling points are its location, accessibility to the best bars, restaurant and shopping facilities, on top of the beach front, of course, which makes it suitable for families.

The resort still has a lot of work to do, to live up to its Triple A rating, Coscolluela admitted. Changes will be introduced gradually, especially since he has to work with staffers who have been with Le Soleil for a while, many of them mired in distracting habits.

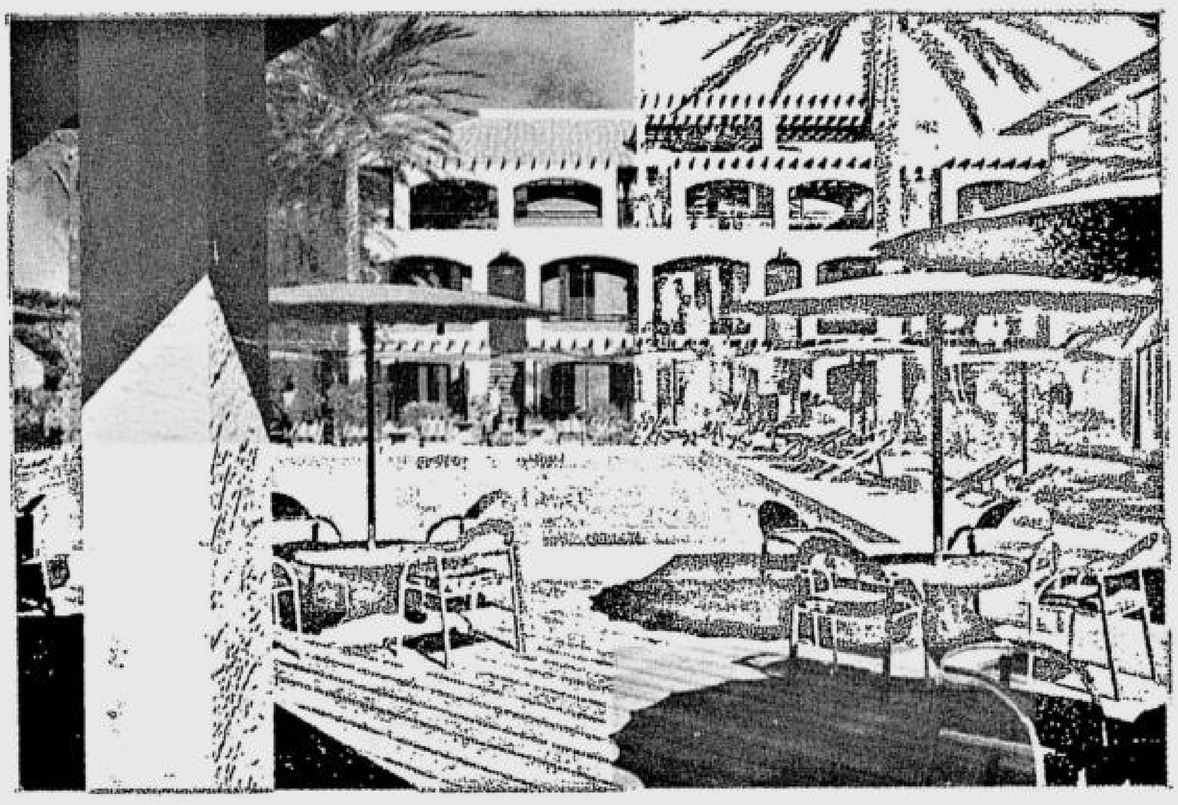
"My grade for the services [at present] is a mere passing mark," he said. "My staff and I are still in our honeymoon stage. I don't want to rock the boat. There are plans for a staff motivation program. It's a challenge for me."

There's also the bigger picture of dealing with Boracay's intrinsic handicaps, such as the lack of facilities in case of an emergency. Coscolluela recalled how his epileptic cousin had a seizure while jet-skiing and died. There is no ambulance in Boracay, or a well-equipped hospital. His cousin had to be brought to Caticlan by boat. At the hospital, he was pronounced dead on arrival.

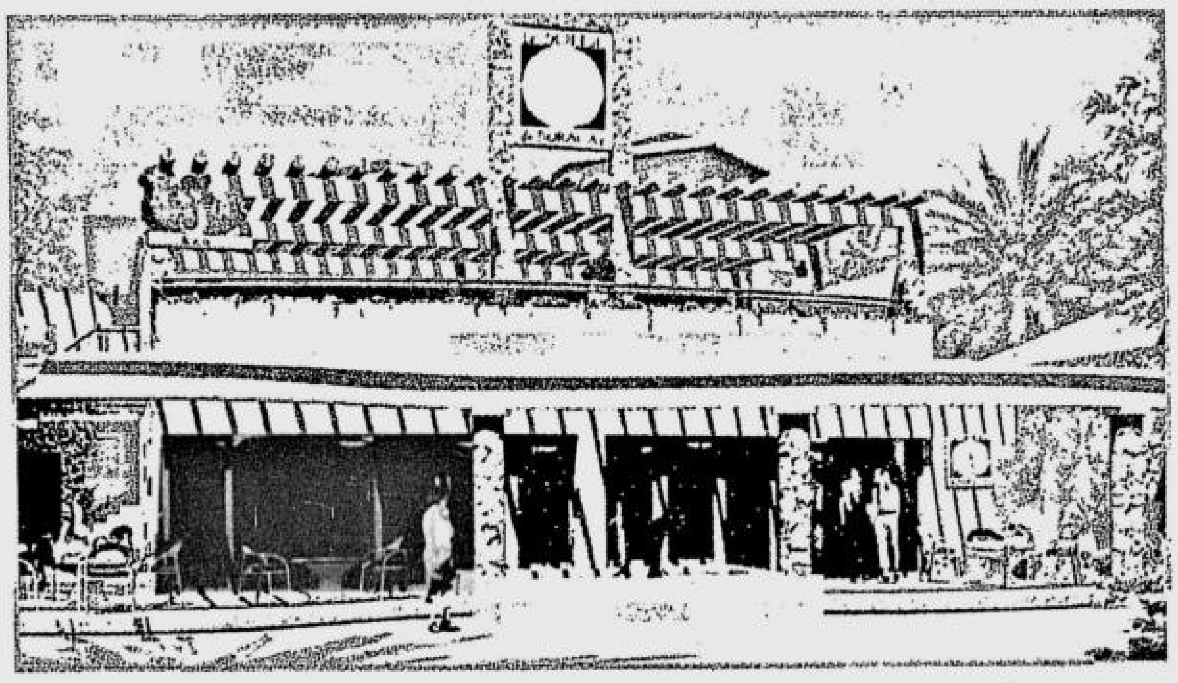
"And this is a world-class destination?" Coscolluela lamented. "There's no watch tower, either, no lifeguard." But there's backyard politics, he said, plus ego problems between fractious groups. And the local government leaves it up to the hotel operators to keep the beach front clean.

Coscolluela's job is like rebuilding a ship while it's still at sea. But having manned a few ships before, he's bound to make Le Soleil de Boracay sail in all its glory.

PERSPECTIVE shot of the interiors. The color scheme veers toward earth tones with bright accents.



THE NEW Le Soleil will be a fusion of Mediterranean and Asian elements. The patio will be widened for parties.



THE PROPOSED renovation will include more organic elements to appeal to Western tourists.

My own Tour de France: a Bordeaux experience

By Adrian V. Lizares, *Contributor*

KEEPING abreast with international social literacy, the Philippines has become a fast-growing market for wines. We find numerous brands from several wine-producing countries even in gasoline service stations in my home province of Negros. Some 20 years ago it was a luxury to serve wine during dinner parties at home. These days, it is a must if you are to be a gracious host.

Last summer in Amsterdam, over dinner with friends, one of whom happened to be from Bordeaux, we repeatedly raised our glasses filled with wine from the region, and wondered how nice it would be to actually see where the famed excellence originated from! So our Bordelaise friend Valerie and her husband Edward were tasked to organize for us, a diverse group, a wine excursion!

The five-night tailor-made trip took Valerie three weeks to plan, including phone calls to wine producers and the different organizations in charge of tourism in wine regions, internet communication with industry experts, airlines, hotels, restaurants, and *chateaux*!

This five-night, tailor-made quest will take forever to relish

Being the most important fine wine-making region in the world (its airport is replete with vineyards), Bordeaux has 36 districts, each producing a particular type of wine. Two of these districts, Medoc and Saint Emillion, we would visit during our trip.

Wines from Bordeaux are not blended with other wine varieties, thus making them unique—there can be only the purest Merlot, for instance, or Cabernet Sauvignon, or Cabernet Franc.

Strict laws of Appellation d'Origine define the characteristics of each region's wine. Among the many intricacies that result in the final and much anticipated *millesime*, the most important would be the vine and how the vintners care for it. Alcohol content, acidity, time of harvest, and fermentation add up to what wine drinkers experience with each bottle.

Counting every leaf

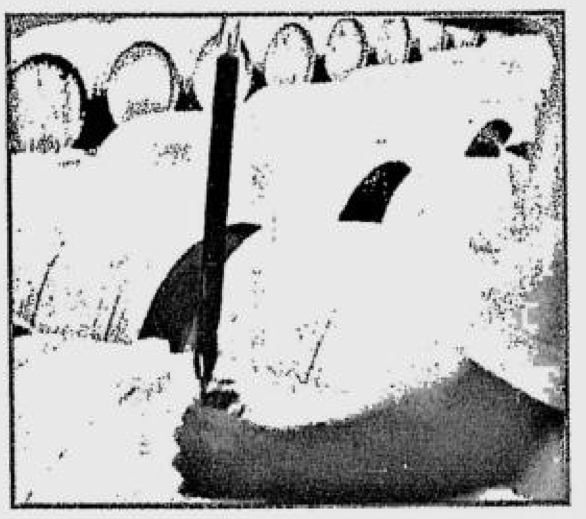
Soil and undersoil composition, which consist the French word *terroir*, is a great dynamic, too. However, I would find that the most interesting aspect is sunlight. It controls the ripening of the grapes. Discerning vintners even count the amount of leaves that shield the grape during this process. Bouquet, for both young and aged wines, is very carefully considered, as is the type of oak barrels used. It is no surprise that, from this land, the best wines emerge into perfection.

The most crucial part of the whole process is that under French wine laws, unnatural irrigation is prohibited. This gives producers a level playing field. Quality of the final product will depend on the sheer determination of the wineries and oenologists to come up with the best. And this also spells the difference between wine produced in France and those produced in Sonoma Valley, California, for instance, where artificial irrigation is allowed.

Asked about the results of these stringent considerations, vintners are wont to raise their palms to heaven and sigh, "*Nous ne savons pas, jamais*!" No one ever knows.

The drive from Bordeaux to Medoc takes about half an hour. Individual vineyards, called *chateaux*, line Medoc's terrain of slightly undulating roads. Our first stop was Chateaux Cantenac Brown. Funny thing, this vineyard was designed by an Englishman, thus the name Brown and the Tudor architecture.

Our visit started at the vines themselves. All our enthusiastic questions were promptly answered. We proceeded to the vats and, later, to the cellars where the 2003 vintage was stocked. We opened three bottles of different types and vintages to taste for ourselves what had just been discussed. Of course I swallowed, never spat it out! It was more fun that way!



A **"PIPPETTE"** draws out a 2003 vintage from the Chateau Fleur Cardinale.

Red wines produced in this region are of particularly fine quality—Pauillac, Margaux, Cantenac, Ste. Estephe, and my favorite, Saint Julien. Famous *chateaux* in this region are Lafitte-Rostchild, Mouton-Rostchild, Margaux, and Latour. They bottle their own wines and affix their names to these—a guarantee of quality and integrity.

Mind the attitude

The top-rated *chateaux*-bottled wines are categorized as *crus classes*, which in turn have five groups called growths. This is not determined by excellence, which is invariably dictated by the simple matter of taste. Other criteria considered are market price, cost of exportation, and fame. Bordeaux wines have been rated in this manner since 1855. Outdated? It seems to have worked perfectly.

Further down the line are the *crus exceptionnels*, and then *crus bourgeois*. Cooperative wineries made other *crus* re-emerge from obsolescence, enabling small producers to come up with exceptional wine using either the utmost modern equipment or the extremely traditional *ancienne* methods managed by expert vintners. This has further raised the quality of wine that Bordeaux is famous for.

The world-famous Chateaux Margaux was our next destination. With each *chateaux* comes an appropriate attitude and behavior, and 112-hectare Margaux does flaunt its wares! Our host, a haughty Norwegian named Marie Chantal, uttered every word with grandness. Her every hand gesture and comment made us gasp, as she took us from cellar to cave where she volunteered to turn on the lights (read: designed by a lighting expert) for the benefit of our cameras, as if to astonish us further.

Let me tell you how impressive it was: millions of euros worth of wine produced in 2003 is kept in an underground vault, three barrels high and as long and wide as the Titanic. Who wouldn't be awed?

The question of buying Margaux vintage wine from auction was totally unheard of, Chantal said. Ah, we understood "snob" even more clearly! Outside, and much later, we were all glad to be back on terra firma, in a smaller but nonetheless excellent, and more "personable" Chateaux Verdus, which Valerie eventually proclaimed her favorite. Last stop in Merdoc was Beychevelle, owned partly by Suntory of Japan.

Magical ride

Next day, we we drove to the Saint Emillion region, crossing Gironde river by ferry and landing at Blaye. We had a magical roller coaster ride through grape fields dotted with turreted castles. But there were so many of them, that the sight soon became a cliché.

Saint Emillion is also an exclusive red wine region with a ratings system created in 1955. It boasts of the names Chateaux Cheval Blanc and Chateaux Ausone. Saint Emillion wines are not included in the 1855 classification. The town itself is medieval, and is a Unesco World Heritage Site.

Here, the group visited three vintners—Clos de Saint Pere, Chateaux Fleur Cardinale, and the last I skipped. I could not stand another glass of wine from another blessed vineyard! So I explored the village instead.

The next day, to everyone's surprise, Valerie took us to formal classroom lessons from which we obtained further palate sensual education. With each lesson teaching us more about wines, I truly believe we became more civilized people.

Zen Zest

There's a reason that this store, just a little body care kiosk three years ago, is now a full-grown enterprise in upscale Glorietta

By Cherish Garcia-Hernandez
Contributor

GIVEN the tendency of Filipinas to be cleanliness freaks, it is no wonder that many high-end body lines are doing so well. I have to admit, I adore body scrubs, lotions, body sprays, and soaps of every scent imaginable. Nowadays, a bar of soap from the supermarket just won't do.

A friend of mine spends extra time scrubbing her legs with an exfoliator and slathering lotion on her feet before going to sleep. Another friend obsessively matches the scent of her body wash with her lotion and body spray. And the spa craze that hit our shores a few years ago shows no signs of waning. This is truly a generation that knows self-pampering. But we take a bath everyday, so bath and body indulgences can really take its toll on one's finances, especially when we're talking of imported brands that use the strong dollar as benchmark for pricing. Thank goodness many excellent local brands are now available.

One of the more prominent ones is Zen Zest. The ubiquitous kiosk in malls all over, now has a store at the bridgeway in Glorietta selling a complete line of body care products.

Home-cooked

The brainchild of 26-year-old Michelle Asence, Zen Zest was conceptualized in May 2001. Michelle confesses to a penchant for perfumes since she was seven years old, having been influenced largely by an uncle who collected fragrances. After honing her entrepreneurial skills in the family's food business, she consulted a chemist friend on how to make soaps and the like. Within months she had a little kiosk in Megamall.

She cooked everything herself in the beginning, took cabs to deliver her products, and even attached the sticker labels on herself. Sometimes she even had to tend the store. The first Zen Zest already had a complete line—soap, perfume, body spray, lotion, and body scrub—made in her kitchen. So successful was she that, in two months, another outlet was born. By the end of 2001 she had five outlets without having to add to her initial capital investment. Today Zen Zest has 23 outlets, 10 of which are franchised.

Visiting the store and sampling its products, its success comes as no surprise. The wide array of soaps is mind-boggling. I tried and loved the Chunky Choco Orange—I swear it looks and smells good enough to eat. Rosemary Mint leaves you all fresh and tingly, and the Peppermint Foot scrub—which has a cocktail of ingredients, like Canola oil, olive oil, and cornmeal—leaves your feet as smooth as a baby's butt.

Other favorites are the Body Wash, which foams nicely out of the pump, and body scrub, which polishes with tiny apricot kernels that smoothens without scratching. And if you are into massages, the aromatherapy lavender-and-rosemary massage oil smells like Provence!

Ambience line

Actually there were so many other things I wanted to try. I'm sure I will be back. The prices are so affordable and the quality superior. I have very sensitive skin and had absolutely no harsh reactions from the products. I also like it that the scents, while nice, are subtle and not overpowering.

Michelle tells me that the best sellers are talc and raspberry and that body sprays and lotions fly off the shelves. Asked about the brand name, she explained how she wanted her products to convey both simplicity (Zen) and a colorful dynamic (Zest). To this day, she uses her instinct in determining what products to add and which ones to discontinue. Every three months or so, she comes up with something new just to keep the choices varied.

Zen Zest even has an ambience line that consists of home fragrance oils and sprays. The shop won the National Consumer's people's choice awards for 2004, something Michelle is very proud of. She has started exporting her products to the Middle East and Canada. Walking by Zen Zest any time, you're sure to see girls excitedly sampling the products. Check it out and be seduced by the fragrant calling.

WINNER of the National Consumer's people's choice award for 2004

BOBOT MERU

TEMPTATION. Inspired by the 1920s jazz club

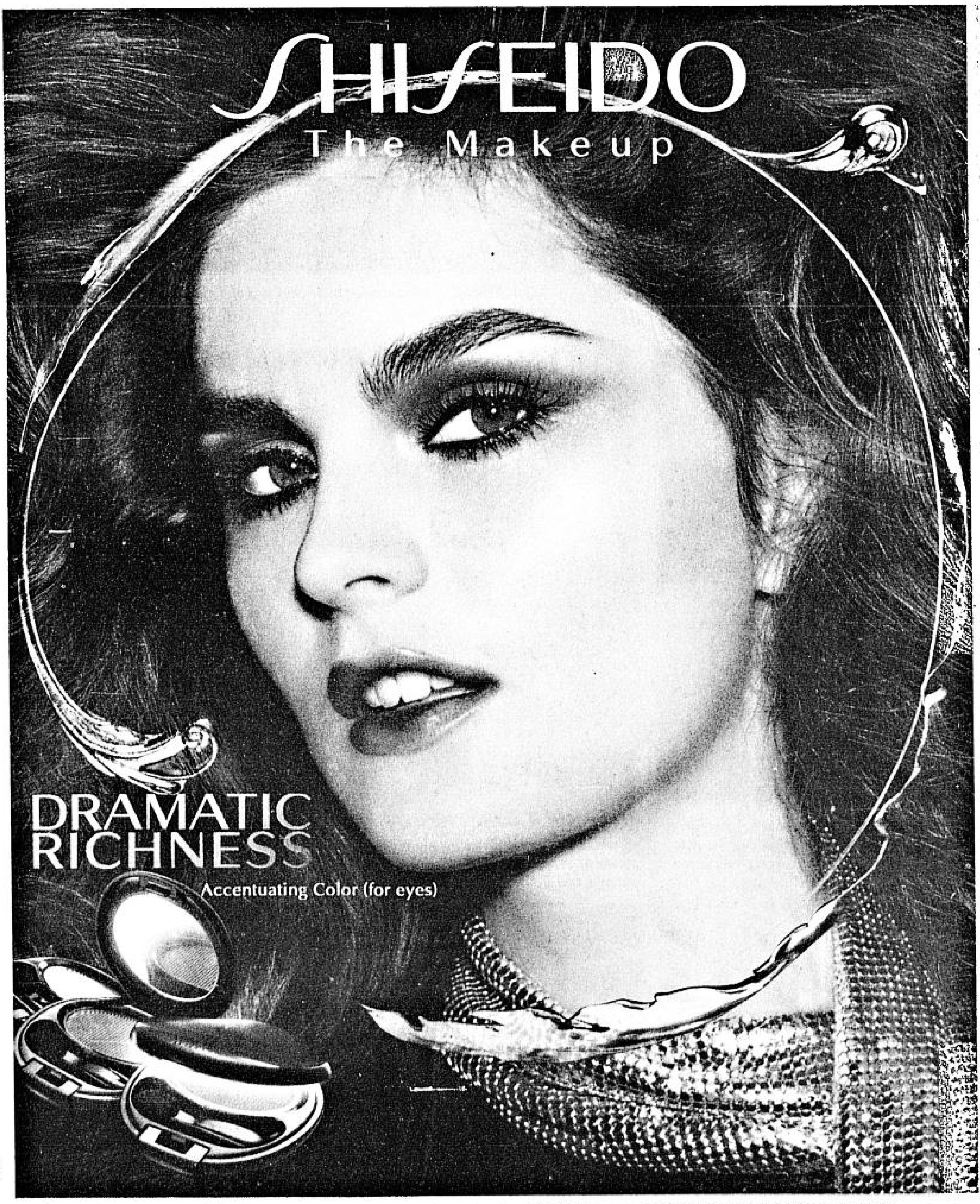
What's the big secret?

THE UNDERGARMENT used to be unmentionable. Now, Filipinas are flaunting it. There's a range of styles—bikinis, thongs, hipsters, boys shorts. The fabrics used are just as varied, from nylon, to lycra to cotton and microfiber.

What's hot this year? Lace, boy shorts with low-rise detail that is especially flattering for the full figure, novelty treatments such as contrasting colors, stretch lace, lace insets, embroidery and crystals, netting, pastels and the use of red and black as staple colors.

Femininity is the focus, with the popularity of corsets, sheer camisoles, flowers, retro polka dots, and checks. Other trends are stripes and ethnic patterns. Satin is still big, for the humid weather. The less expensive materials are charmeuse, tapestry for corsets, and elastic knit.

Women's Secret, from Spain, has literally been Manila's best-kept secret. It has an extensive collection of classic and trendy undergarments and sleep wear that are top drawers. With the right accessories, they can be worn to parties! At least, you'll be dressed for bed early. The store is located at Glorietta 3, Robinson's Galleria East Wing, Alabang Town Center, Rustan's Shangri-la Plaza, and Power Plant Mall in Rockwell.



A Gift For You!
Get a 7-piece gift set for every P4500 purchase inclusive of at least one product from the Autumn / Winter Collection.

SHISEIDO THE MAKEUP
Autumn / Winter Collection 2004

Shiseido The Makeup introduces its Autumn / Winter Collection 2004. Designed by renowned French make-up artist Tom Pecheux, the vibrancy of the season is evoked by the exciting play of rich hues.

Accentuating Color for eyes (8 shades)
The shimmer of precious stones is translated in each shade that is formulated with pearl pigments. Worn alone or combined with other shades, Accentuating Color provides depth and drama for the eyes. P1498.

Lasting Lift Mascara (3 shades)
A waterproof mascara that curls lashes from the roots with a feather-light finish. State-of-the-art brush grabs each and every lash to give eyes a dramatic definition. P1393.

Natural Finish Combing Mascara
An easy-to-use lash comb defines lashes one by one to give a glossy finish. Can be used as a topcoat to make other mascaras last longer. P995.

Enriched Loose Powder
A moisturizing loose powder that gives a light, silky, translucent finish to all skin tones, from fair to deep bronze. P1550.

Perfecting Lipstick (5 new shades)
For full, soft lips, each lipstick has moisturizing ingredients. The season's new shades strongly contrast with shimmery Accentuating Color eyeshadows to enhance the drama of the eyes. P1050.

Lip Liner Pencil (3 new shades)
These long-lasting lip liners glide on expertly to create smooth lines without bleeding. The new shades perfectly complement the extended range of The Makeup lipsticks. P898.

Shiseido The Makeup is available at Shiseido Beauty Institute Glorietta 4, Shiseido Beauty Institute Power Plant Mall, SM Megamall, SM North Edsa, SM Makati, SM Harrison Plaza, SM Cebu, The Landmark, Watson's Podium, Robinson's Ermita, Robinson's Galleria, and Shangri-La Mall.

DOH-BFAD Permit No.: 1069 series of 2004

Cramped condo now a classy loft

Forward-looking architect turns playful for this 'renewal project'

Photos by Ava Lugtu
Pictorial direction by Albert Avellana

ARCHITECT Jose Ma. Yupangco, known for his ultra-modern, albeit severe designs, turns playful in this condominium unit owned by a businessman. The forward-looking architect reinvents a fusty flat into a striking statement of rhythm and color gradation, elements that conservative Filipino clients usually shy away from.

Think minimalism focusing on one essential line. Yupangco takes one element, the rectangular slit, and then repeats and makes variations of it—wall accent, windows, shelving and storage.

The architect describes the unit in Makati's Twin Towers as a "renewal project." To him, older condominiums offer more room for experimentation because the units are bigger, compared to those of newer structures which, he says, have "less density."

"Objects and buildings age like people," he explains. "You can improve on them. We all have to reinvent ourselves at a certain point."

And so he revitalized the cramped condominium by knocking down walls and transforming it into a classy loft:

Cross lighting

The impact starts from the lift lobby. "Just like in New York," he says. "As you step out of the elevator, there's the foyer. It can become part of the room." A glass partition separates the area from the inside of the apartment. This facilitates cross lighting from inside and outside the unit, and also creates a feeling of levity.

Walls in the living and dining areas are wrapped in laminated veneer lumber and, as such, don't succumb to humidity. They form one continuous panel filled with a series of striations, like a musical staff filled with rests. Through these narrow slits are seen a different cityscape. The buildings become cropped images, making the room seem larger.

Yupangco removed the original tiles and cemented the floor, with the grid serving as a design element, and also to avoid cracks.

Veering away from such living room clichés as linear sofas and three-seaters, he played with shapes. A vertical bamboo artwork echoes the striations on the wall. "I wanted to deviate. I also placed lozenge-shaped sofas," he says.

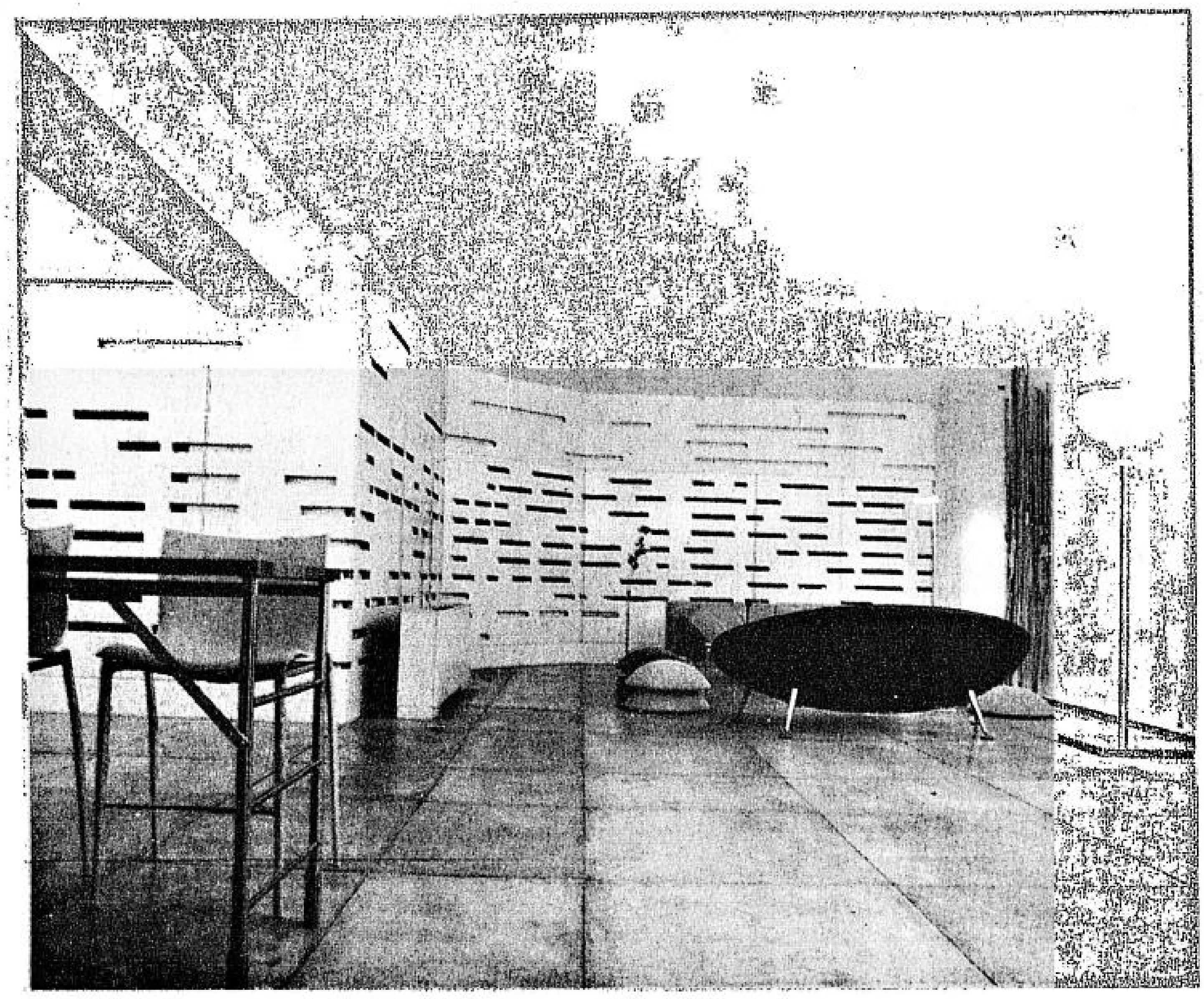
He favored a free layout, for flexibility. Adjoining the living room are the dining areas and an open kitchen with a long table top that can be used as a breakfast corner or buffet table.

The original ceiling made the apartment look too compact. "We took out the slabs and exposed the structural parts," says Yupangco. Instead of using white for his color story, he picked a single color in that graduates in subtle tones. "Color influences you. If you work with white or a non-color, you are mono-saturated by the space that you're working with."

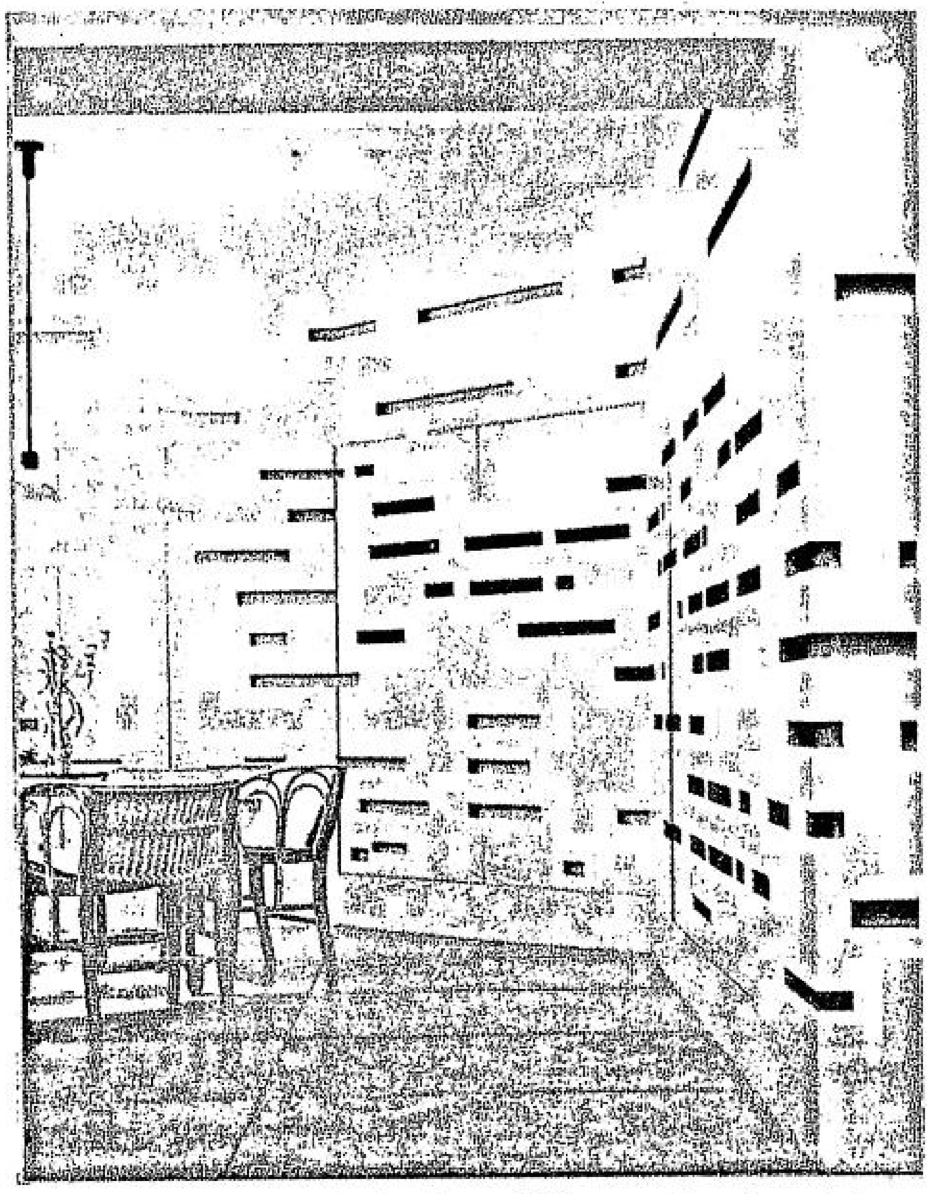
Lighting is an essential factor in creating moods. "It can be used for illumination or to make end rooms as the focal point," he says.

Dropped ceiling

Thus, in the hallway, he dropped the ceiling and folded it to cover some of the pipes. Backlighting creates the feeling of height. "You don't need much lighting," he points out. "I use cove lighting along the corridor and floor lamps ones in the rooms. Dowlights in bedrooms are no longer important. Ambient lighting creates shadows that create mood. It's the continuity that is important." *Marge C. Enriquez*

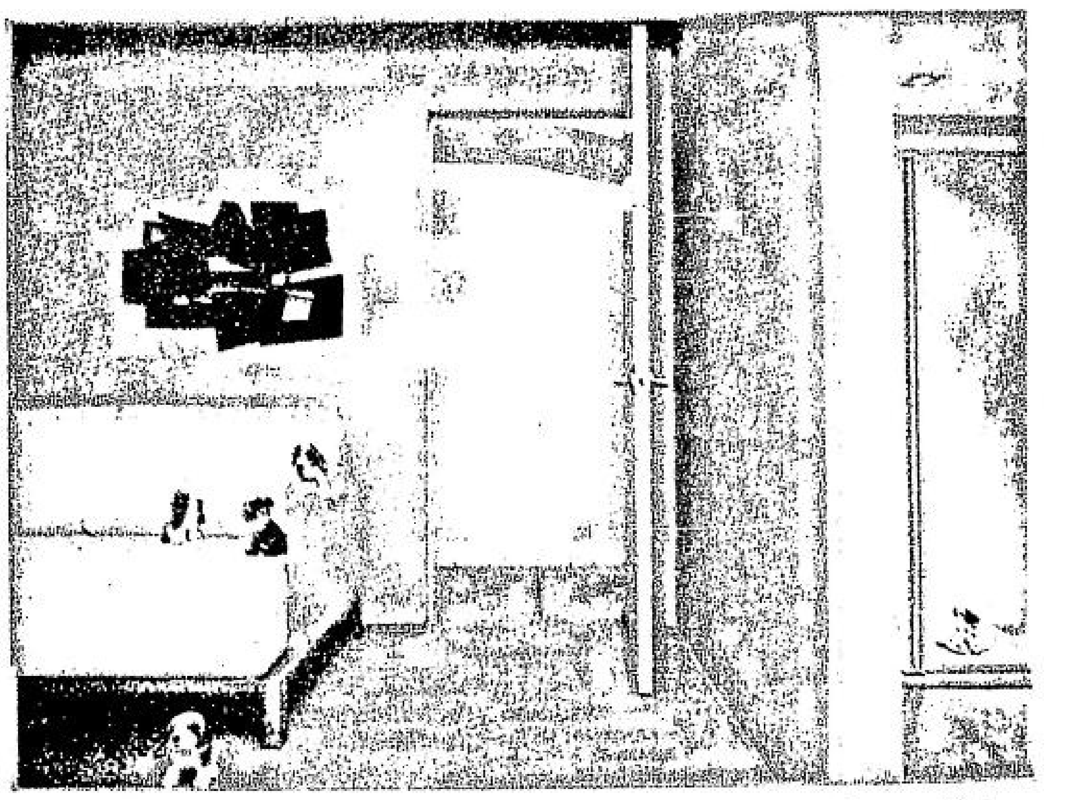


THE UNIFORMITY of the elements in the living room and breakfast nook-cum-bar exudes a calming effect. Yupangco sought to achieve a simulation of infinity with a continuous wall studded with striations. The entire floor is dressed in plain concrete with the grid pattern as a design element. Ellipsoidal sofas soften the linear geometry of the room.

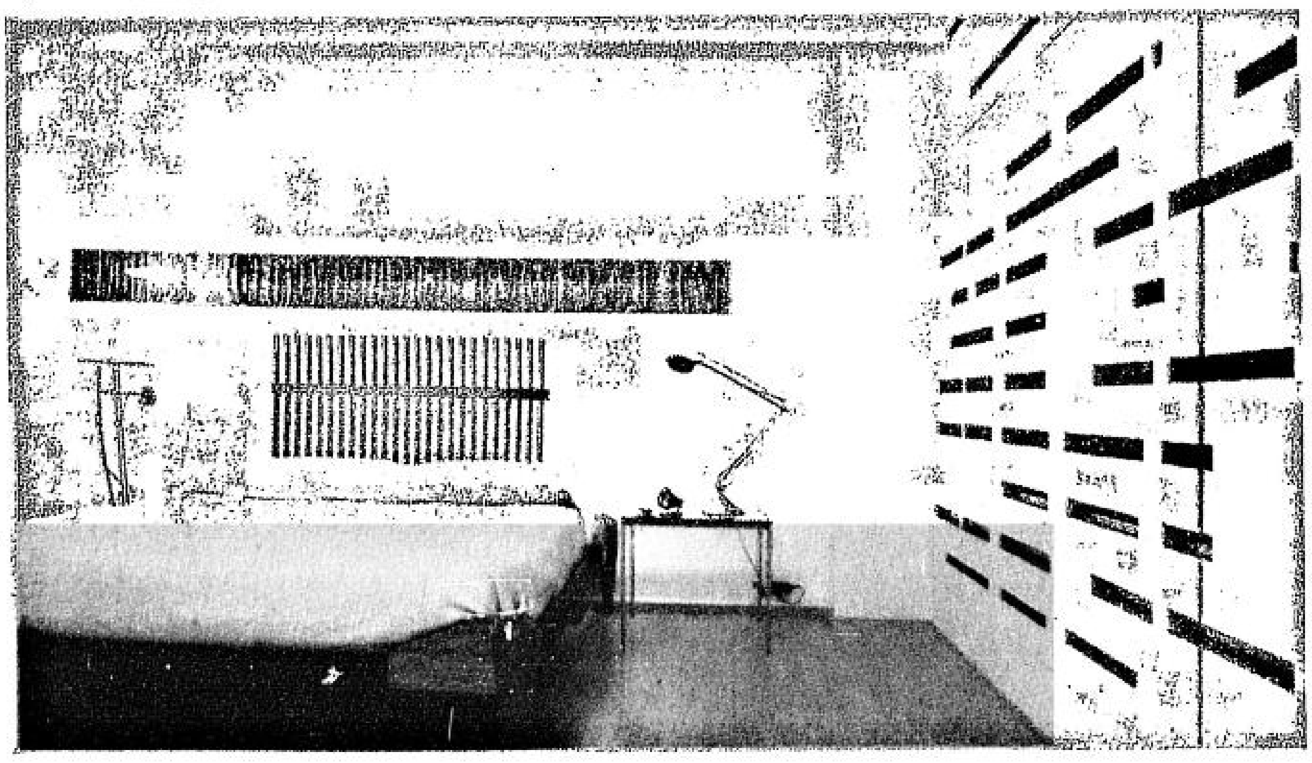


A TOUCH of Asian influence in the wicker and dining set subdues the condo's industrial look.

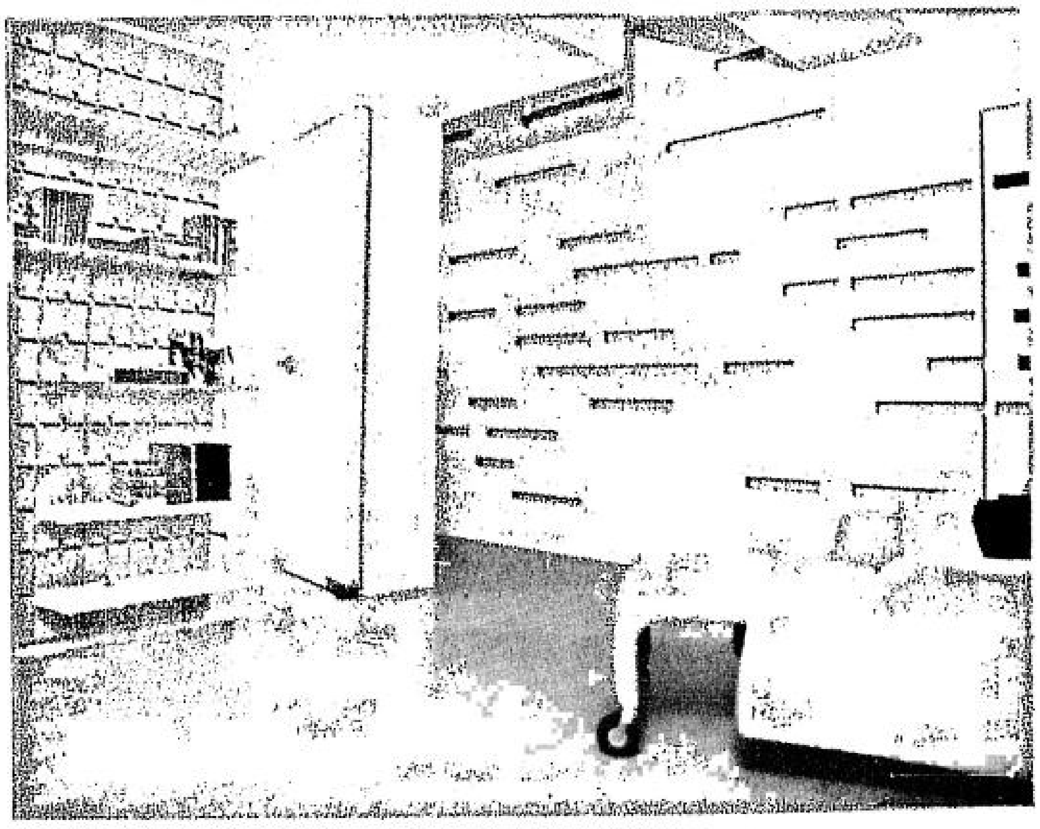
THE LIFT foyer is integrated into the apartment proper. Yupangco installed floor-to-ceiling glass doors to brighten up the condo. To address the problem of height, he built a floating ceiling and had it uplighted. The eye is led upward, for an illusion of altitude. Other decorative details are the minimalist storage facilities, mushroom caps and photographs by Denise Weldon.



USING a primary color in the guest room is a bold move, the architect says, because Filipinos prefer neutrals and pastels. The room flooring is made from engineered wood. Littered toy puppies add a playful atmosphere.



THE MASTER bedroom is sparsely appointed. Still in keeping with the overall design theme, the headboard is made of vertical slats that is a subtle counterpoint to the motif of repeated striations. For impact, Yupangco played with proportion, placing a large, horizontal artwork above the bed to punctuate the rectangular slits of the walls. Also of interest are the floor and pedestal lamps made from industrial materials resting on the glass night tables.



SIMPLE elements in the bedroom entrance create an impact. The recurrence of horizontal slits is carried over to the bedroom. The wall-to-wall shelf system reiterates the motif.

Monsoon weddings

Photos by Patrick Uy

THE PHILIPPINES had its own versions of "Monsoon Wedding," led by the Padilla-Tambunting and Lagdameo-Trillana nuptials last month. The ceremonies were held at Santuario de San Antonio, and on both occasions, the rain poured. But the weather didn't dampen the spirits of the hosts and guests. BridesMaids & Co. facilitated the flow of events flawlessly. Patrick Rosas did the makeup.

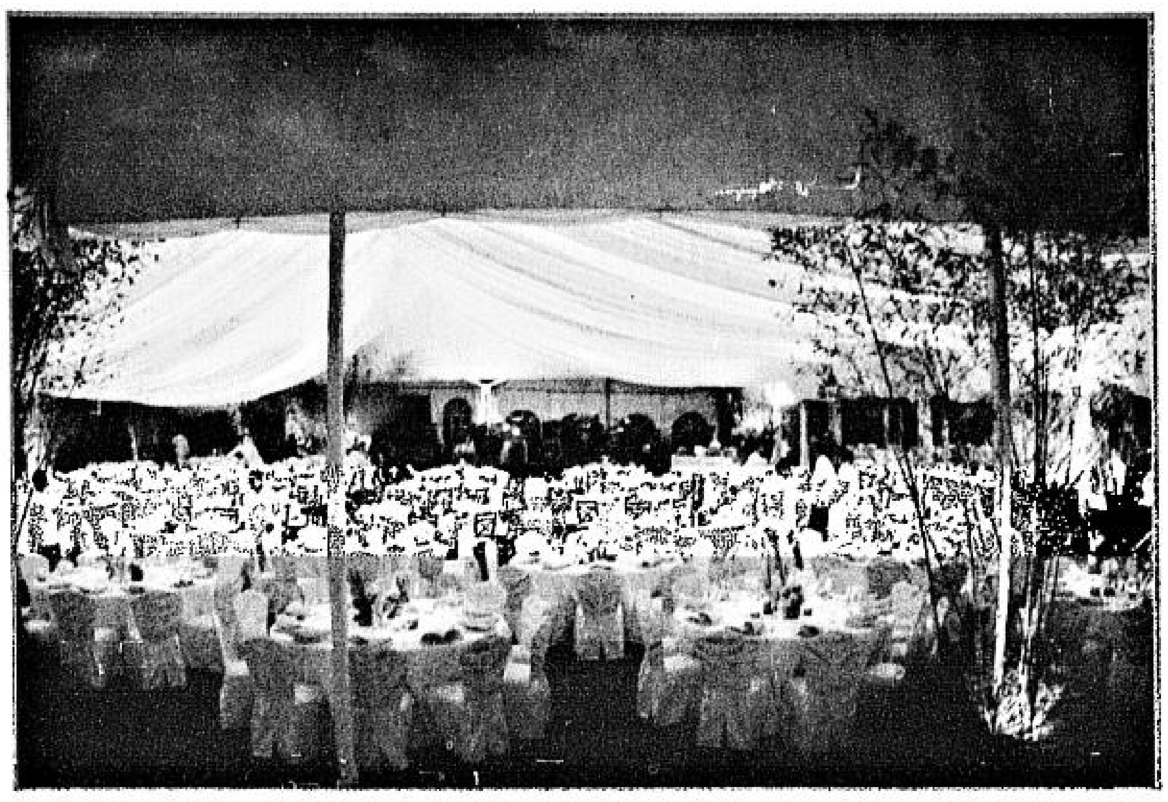
One of Manila's most eligible catches, businessman Manny Padilla settled down with Assumption educator Mia Tambunting, daughter of Jesus Tambunting, former ambassador to the Court of St. James. The event was simple and elegant. The groom's relatives flew in from Spain, bringing *tapas* and *jamon*. During the reception at Peninsula Manila, a fully decked buffet table dominated the Rigodon Ballroom. It was laden with flowers, cheeses, appetizers and desserts, and an elegant three-layered cake by Heny Sison. The guests were of several generations—the bride's school friends in London and at the Ateneo; the parents' contemporaries including P.L. Lim; Senators Jamby Madrigal and Ralph Recto and Ilocos Gov. Bongbong Marcos. Guests went home with silver-and-crystal jewelry boxes.

The Lagdameo-Trillana reception looked like a scene from Mira Nair's movie, replete with a waterproof tent. It was set in the garden of the Floirendos' Forbes Park residence. A few days before the wedding, the BridesMaids made sure there were no leaks in the roof of the air-conditioned tent. Decorator Ponce Veridiano created a garden inside the tent and highlighted the decor with antique jars filled with bamboo.

The bride and groom are both in the food business at Bonifacio Global City. Cary Lagdameo, son of Linda Floirendo and Tonet Lagdameo, runs Je Suis Gourmand. Tina de Ocampo Trillana's family owns the huge hit, Go Nuts Donuts. Naturally, the point of interest was the food. The giveaways reflected the couple's background—bottled preserves, pineapple *pandan* and eggplant dip with a recipe book of appetizers and creative entreés

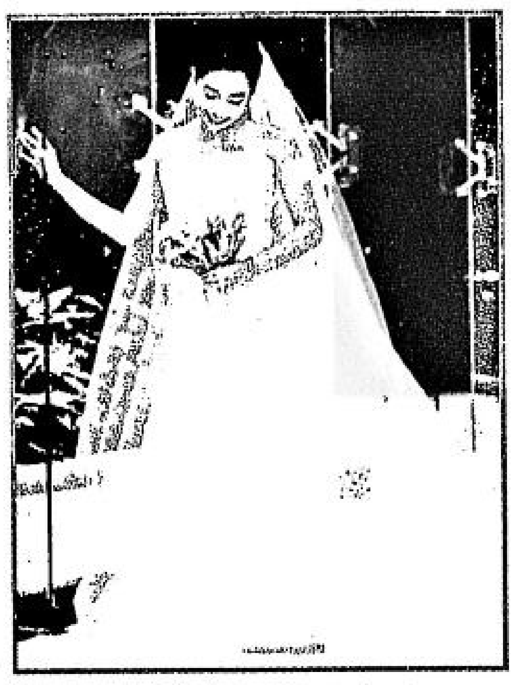
Cibo, the official caterer, served cocktails echoing the wedding's color motif of green, yellow and orange. Fresh produce and meats were flown in from the Floirendo farm in Davao. For the main course, Gourmand provided the carvings. Highlights were Cibo's Belgian chocolate fondue fountain that served as a dip for Go Nuts Donut holes. Sison's wedding cake was likewise inspired by the crispy and creamy donuts.

THE PENINSULA'S Rigodon Ballroom never looked so good: Noteworthy was the grand center buffet which featured cheeses and *jamon* flown in from Madrid, as well as a resplendent spread of the hotel's best antipasti, enjoyed by guests at the Padilla-Tambunting reception. Decor by Mabolo.

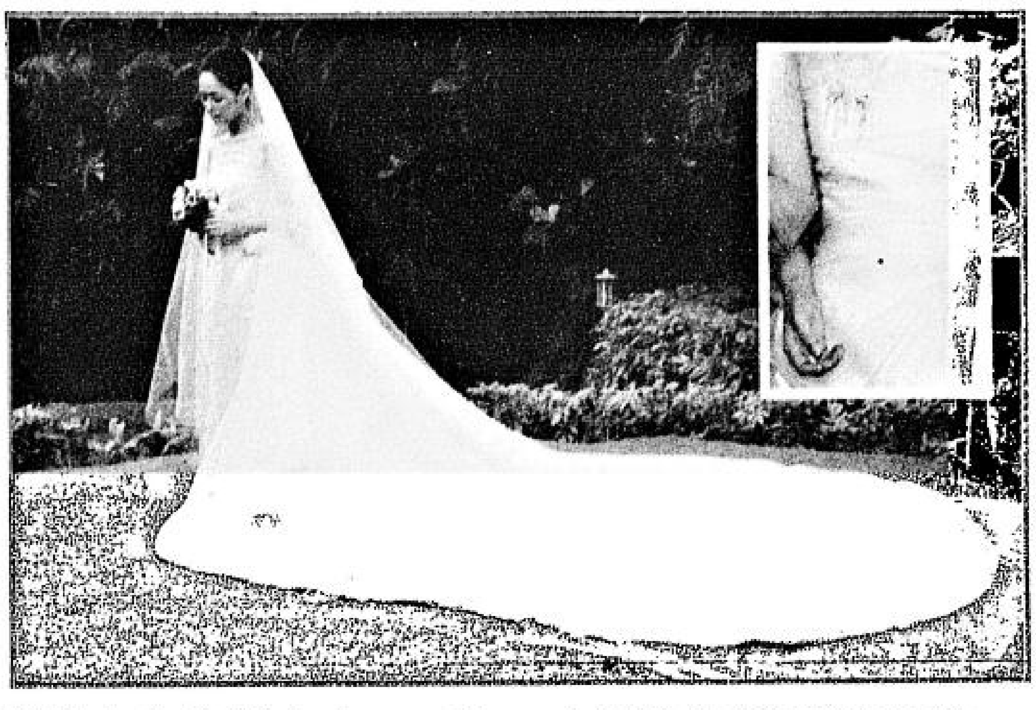


AT THE Floirendo home, a buoyant tent kept over 500 of the Lagdameo-Trillana wedding guests comfy and safe from the monsoon rains. Decor was done by Ponce Veridiano.

GROOM'S grandfather, Antonio Floirendo, welcomes President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo into his home.



BEAUTIFUL bride Tina Trillana, leaving for church to become Mrs. Ricardo "Cary" Lagdameo. Tina's gown is by Vera Wang.



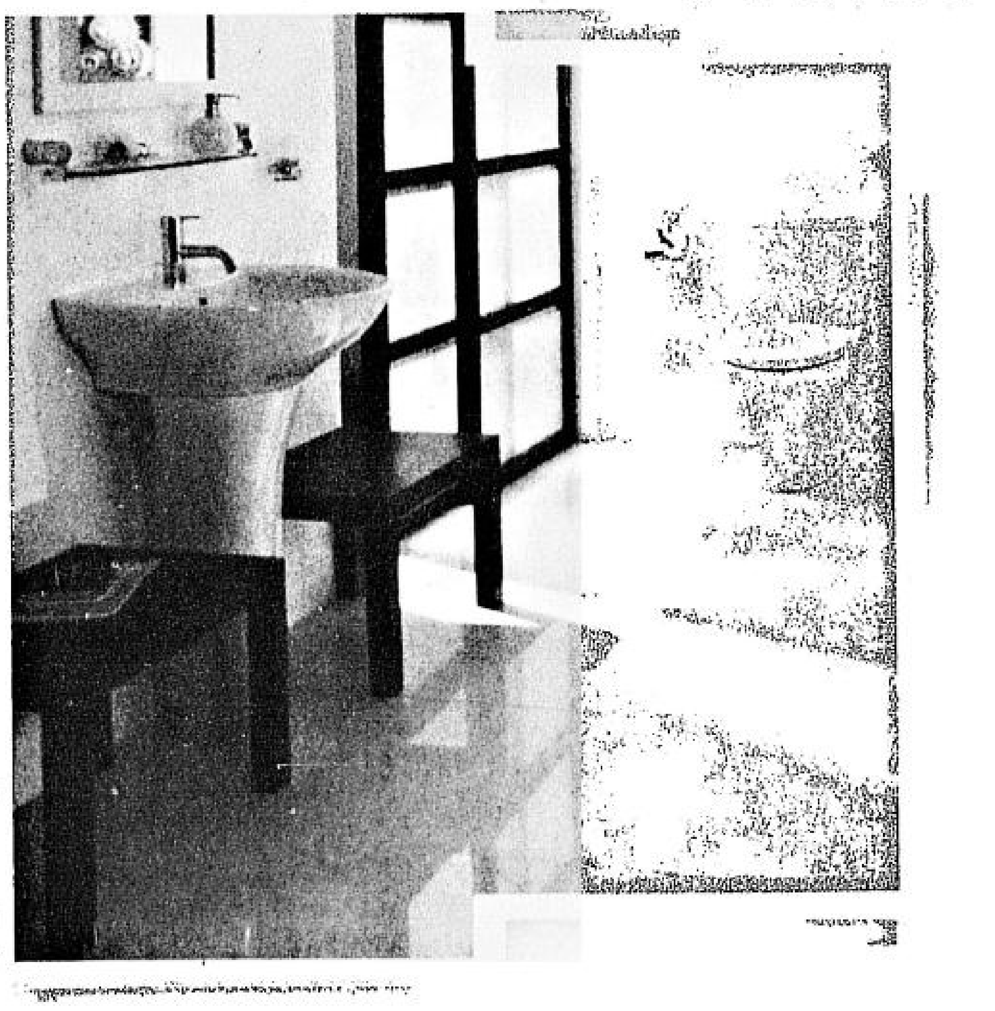
MIA Tambunting-Padilla's strapless gown with a sweeping train is done in ivory duchesse satin with pineapple silk. Inno Sotto's trademark is to fasten diamond brooches on the ruched bodice.

CORD sponsor Sen. Ralph Recto keeps Manny and Mia smiling at the altar.

CARY and his friends eagerly await Tina's arrival. From left, Raul Manglapus III, Pablo Festa, Bojo Locsin, the groom, David Suarez, Quito Lopez and Carlo Lopez

SENATOR Franklin and Mila Drilon at the Padilla-Tambunting reception

MIA'S bouquet by Antonio Garcia of Mabolo



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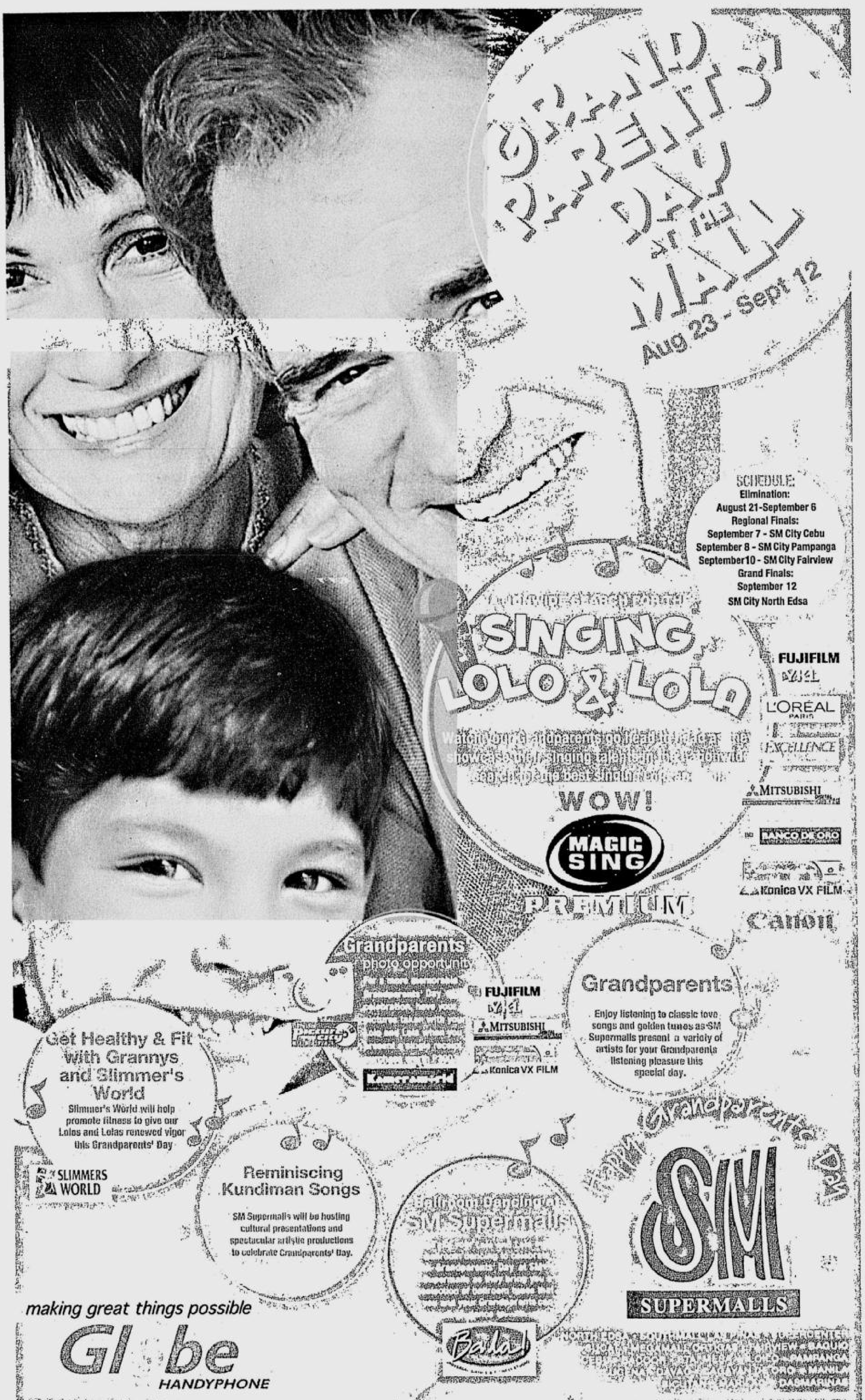
Celebrate! GRANDPARENTS' DAY AT SM SUPERMALLS

Treat your Grandparents to a day of fun-filled events and activities as SM Supermalls pay tribute to all Lolos and Lolas on Grandparents' Day. Give them a Grandparents' Day celebration they won't forget. Bring them to any of the SM Supermalls and choose from the wide variety of activities we have in store for your beloved Lolos and Lolas!


GRAND PARENTS' DAY AT THE MALL
Aug 23 - Sept 12
SCHEDULE:
Elimination:
August 21-September 6
Regional Finals:
September 7 - SM City Cebu
September 8 - SM City Pampanga
September10 - SM City Fairview
Grand Finals:
September 12
SM City North Edsa
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Enjoy listening to classic love songs and golden tunes as SM Supermalls present a variety of artists for your Grandparents listening pleasure this special day.
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SLIMMERS WORLD
Reminiscing Kundiman Songs
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Bala!

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

NATIONWIDE SEARCH FOR SINGING LOLOS AND LOLAS

This Grandparents' Day, all Lolos and Lolas are invited to participate in **SM Supermalls** nationwide search for the best singing Lolo and Lola, for a chance to win lots of prizes. Watch Lolos and Lolas go head to head as they croon their way to stardom at **SM Cebu** on September 7, **SM Pampanga** on September 8, **SM Fairview** on September 10 for the Regional Finals and **SM North Edsa** on September 12 for the Grand Finals.

REMINISCING KUNDIMAN SONGS

SM Supermalls will be hosting cultural presentations showcasing traditional folk dances and songs this Grandparents' Day. Listen to the heart wrenching Kundiman renditions and reminisce with your Grandparents on September 3 at **SM Lucena**, September 5 at **SM Southmall**, September 6 at **SM Davao**, September 9 at **SM North Edsa**, September 10 at **SM Dasmariñas** and **SM Bicutan**, September 10 and 11 at **SM Cagayan de Oro**.

Visit **SM Pampanga** on September 1 and take part in their celebration of Music and Melody. Let **SM Marilao** serenade your Lolo and Lola on September 10 with their Harana Para Kay Lolo at Lola and catch their cultural show on September 11. Catch **SM Lucena's** Balik Tanaw Cultural Show on September 8 and Bida si Lolo at Lola Variety show on September 11.

BALLROOM DANCING AT SM SUPERMALLS

Take your Lolo and Lola out ballroom dancing at **SM Supermalls** as they bring you a selection of ballroom tunes that you and your Grandparents can dance to. Visit **SM Marilao** on September 1, **SM Marilao** and **SM Bacoor** on September 3, **SM Megamall** and **SM Marilao** on September 4, **SM Pampanga**, **SM Lucena** and **SM Sucat** on September 5, **SM Davao** and **SM Cagayan de Oro** on September 7, **SM Cebu, SM Manila**, and **SM Pampanga** on September 10, **SM Fairview, SM Sta. Mesa** and **SM Pampanga** on September 11, **SM Bicutan, SM Dasmariñas** and **SM Southmall** on September 12 to get a chance to show off your Lolos and Lolas dancing skills along with special surprise guests. Visit **SM Pampanga** on September 10 and 11 as they celebrate Grandparents' Day with a Dance Fiasco. Catch **SM Marilao's** Ballroom Dance Festival and Pasayawang Bayan featuring Boogie Nights on September 1, Rigodon de Honor on September 3 and Dance Gathering on September 4.

TRIBUTE TO GRANDPARENTS

Enjoy listening to classic love songs and golden tunes as SM Supermalls present a variety of artists for your Grandparents listening pleasure this special day.

Sing with **Josephine Gomez** and take a trip down memory lane on September 3 at **SM Megamall**. Watch **RJ Jacinto** perform live at **SM Megamall** on September 5, **SM Sta. Mesa** on September 10, **SM Bicutan** on September 11 and **SM Sucat** on September 12. Groove with **Elizabeth Ramsey** at **SM North Edsa** on September 10, **SM Sucat** on September 11, **SM Bicutan** and **SM Sta. Mesa** on September 12. Look out for **Freddie Aguilar's** performances on September 10 at **SM Manila**, September 11 at **SM North Edsa** and **SM Fairview**. Sing along with **Pilita Corales** on September 10 at **SM Southmall**, September 11 at **SM Manila** and September 12 at **SM North Edsa**. Be serenaded by **Jose Mari Chan** at **SM Megamall** on September 12. Reminisce with **Florante De Leon** at **SM Marilao** on September 12 and catch **Claire dela Fuente** at **SM Fairview** on September 10 and **Haji Alejandro** at **SM Manila** on September 12. Check out **Lea Navarro** at **SM Bacoor** on September 10 and **Imelda Papin** at **SM Dasmariñas** on September 11. Visit **SM Pampanga** on September 12 as they feature special **Celebrity Requests** to celebrate Grandparents Day.

GET HEALTHY AND FIT WITH SLIMMER'S WORLD

Slimmer's World will help promote fitness to give our Lolos and Lolas renewed vigor this Grandparents' Day. Visit their interactive booths at **SM Cebu** on September 2, **SM Iloilo** and **SM Pampanga** for a session on Yogalatis on September 3, **SM Davao** and **SM Sta. Mesa** on September 4, **SM Sucat** and **SM Cagayan de Oro** on September 5, **SM Southmall** on September 8, **SM Manila** on September 9, **SM Fairview** on **September 10** and **SM Megamall** on September 11.

GRANDPARENTS PHOTO OP

Capture the fun and laughter with your beloved Lolos and Lolas by getting your picture taken--visit **SM Megamall** on September 4 and 5, **SM North Edsa, SM Fairview, SM Manila** and **SM Megamall** on September 10, 11 and 12 and **SM Sucat, SM Bicutan, SM Sta. Mesa, SM Southmall, SM Bacoor, SM Dasmariñas** on September 12.

SM Supermalls give you a wide array of simple, meaningful and fun ways to let your Grandparents know how much you appreciate them. Rush to the nearest SM Supermall with your Lolos and Lolas and take part in these activities for a Grandparents' Day celebration they won't forget!

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Homeward bound

A new residential estate in San Pedro, Laguna calls to young families ready to take on lifestyle changes

By Angela Blardony Ureta
Contributor
Photos by Ava Lugtu
Pictorial direction by Antonio Salac-Santos

I HAVE always been a southern belle. I remember celebrating my eighth birthday in our new home at the time—a three-bedroom bungalow in Parañaque with a bermuda grass lawn and orange *santan*. That was 30 years ago, when city denizens had just discovered a world that opened up with the creation of the South Luzon Expressway.

In those days, life in the south was an almost bucolic existence. You can walk to school, church, and the dry market, or take a tricycle to the village gate to escape its confines. We played hide-and-seek among the tall *cogon* grass in the neighboring vacant lots and looked forward to taking the much-awaited Saturday bus ride to the Makati Commercial Center for weekly burger lunches and shopping at Syvel's. Those excursions meant "going to town."

When we visited relatives in Laguna, we would pass through the sleepy streets of Muntinlupa, whose main edifices were the whitewashed walls of the Food and Drug Bureau and a hospital for tropical diseases. And we gawked with childlike enthusiasm at the spotted cows grazing in the pastures surrounding dairy farms. Crossing the border, motor lazily into Laguna—San Pedro, Santa Rosa … a row of rustic towns that told us we were "in the province."

Not anymore. Today, living in the south is synonymous to living in style.

South of Manila is where the premiere real estate is. It is home to exclusive villages and tony subdivisions, trendy malls and sleek office buildings. Moreover, it favors diverse lifestyle trends because most of the favored "quick escape" destinations are an hour's drive away—the mountain slopes of Tagaytay, the beaches of Cavite and Batangas, the hot springs of Laguna, the rugged trails of Rizal.

Unfortunately, I had to move out of my childhood home when I started producing newsmagazines for a major television network. With the base of operation in Quezon City, frequent out-of-town coverage and a 24/7 work schedule, it became virtually impossible to continue, much less enjoy, living in the south.

Search for a sanctuary

Today, tired of chasing stories, meeting deadlines and competing for ratings on a daily basis, I dream of being homeward bound once more. I am not

HOMEWARD/ 2

The Trails of La Marea by 360° Living **Home to welcome change**

Multi-functional living areas are cozy nooks for welcoming guests or spending time with the family.

Over the course of a family's lifetime, welcome changes are a constant. For these changes, 360° Living, the property re-imagineers, offers The Trails of La Marea.

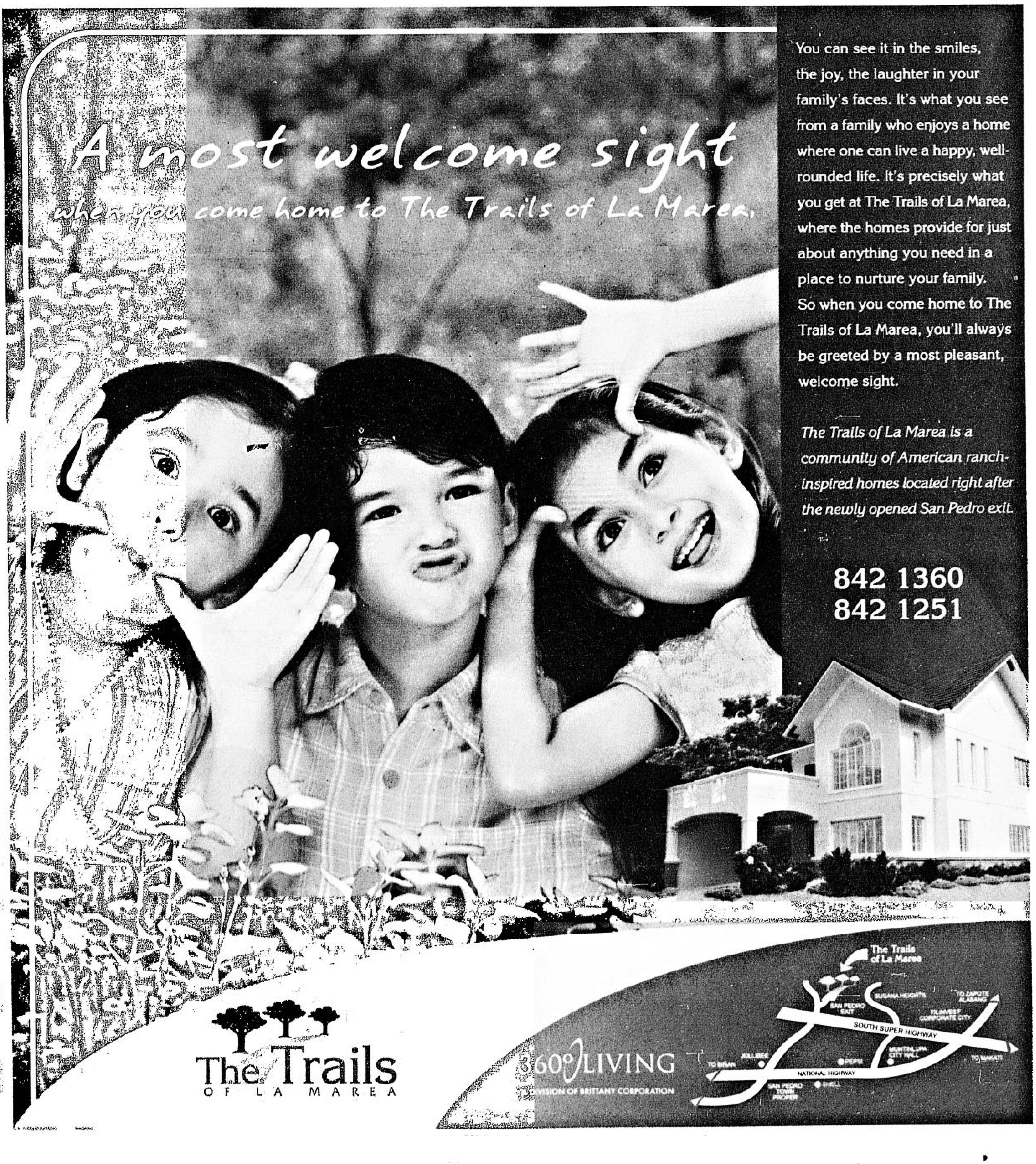
The latest development of La Marea in San Pedro, The Trails provides the perfect home for families and the welcome changes that come their way, positive changes that affect how one lives, how one looks at life—changes like the beginning of married life, the birth of a first child, or the growth of a family, and all the other changes that demand moving up in life, moving into a new home.

The Trails of La Marea provides for these changes by offering American ranch-inspired homes in a community close to nature, in a location that's close to everything. In fact, with the opening of the new San Pedro exit, The Trails of La Marea is city close, only a short drive from Alabang and Makati. So one arrives fresh from work and can spend more quality time on what truly matters—the family. Alongside the nearby location, the facilities and amenities at The Trails of La Marea helps enhance the family's quality of life.

The fern garden is a natural activity area. The playground is a kids' haven. The swimming pool, surrounded by trees, is a refreshing getaway. The community itself is ideal for welcome change, for neighborly interaction yet with respect for one's privacy.

From the homes to the amenities to the community, the Trails of La Marea is ideal for welcoming change.

To know more about The Trails of La Marea, call 842 1360 or 842 1251.



You can see it in the smiles, the joy, the laughter in your family's faces. It's what you see from a family who enjoys a home where one can live a happy, well-rounded life. It's precisely what you get at The Trails of La Marea, where the homes provide for just about anything you need in a place to nurture your family. So when you come home to The Trails of La Marea, you'll always be greeted by a most pleasant, welcome sight.

The Trails of La Marea is a community of American ranch-inspired homes located right after the newly opened San Pedro exit.

842 1360
842 1251

Homeward bound

From page I

exactly "house-hunting," though, rummaging around for the obligatory suburban nest with a comely roof and four walls. I am looking for personal space, a sanctuary, some quiet corner where I can prime my soul to write and in other days, to sing. I'm in search of a home. And home, to me, can only mean some place where I can drive by the highway and admire the poetic waters of a lake once called "Laguna Encantada," still framed by green mountain ranges and bright, open skies.

Since I am still actively pursuing my profession, this future home will not be meant for the weekends or for early retirement. It has to be accessible to the seat of action—close enough for travel on a daily basis, but distant enough for a speedy retreat from the urban workplace.

With this in mind, I welcomed the chance for a look-see at La Marea, a bustling new residential estate in San Pedro, Laguna. Only 10 minutes away from Alabang via the South Luzon Expressway, this neighborhood of ranch-inspired homes, complete with white picket fences, is owned and developed by Brittany Corporation.

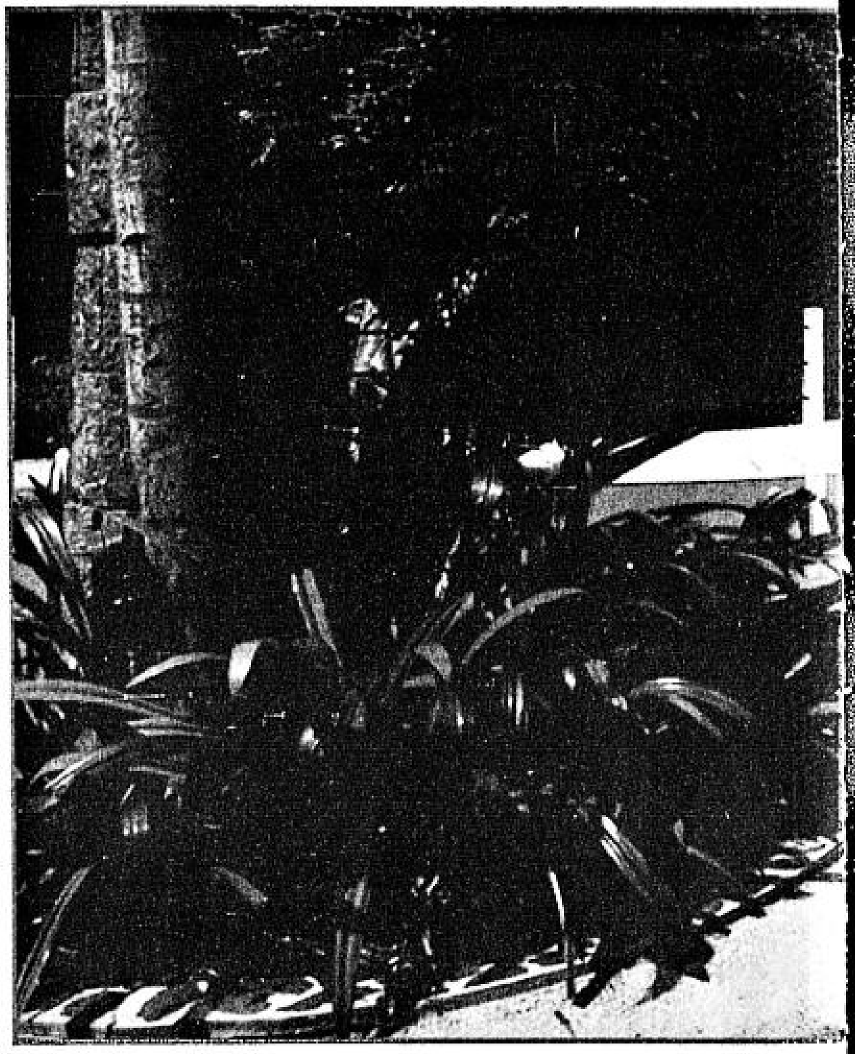
Because of its reputation for building homes for the well-heeled set, I had some reservations in terms of affordability, but corporate communications head Nova Noval insisted that Brittany designed La Marea to be "an ideal community for upwardly mobile professionals and young families that are ready to take on lifestyle changes."

It is one of the company's flagship projects under its 360° Living division, Noval said, describing La Marea's target residents as self-made achievers who take pride in their career accomplishments and value whatever little time they have for relaxation.

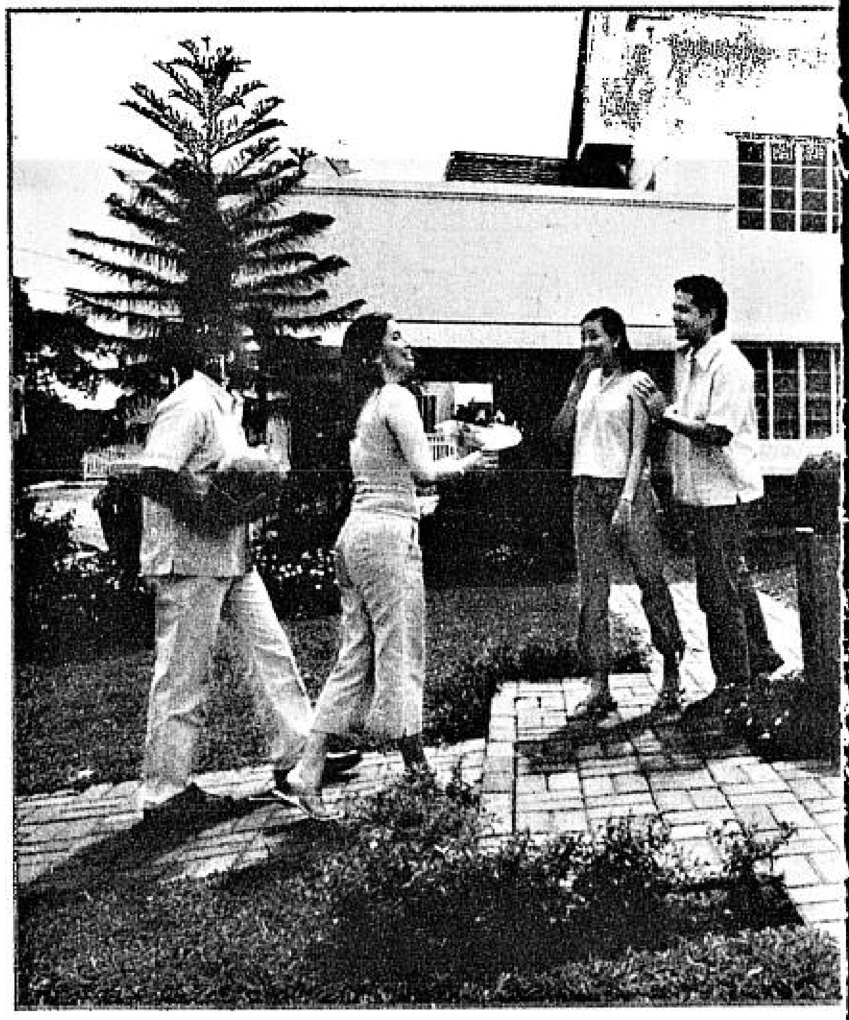
"They work hard and feel they deserve to enjoy the fruits of their labor. So they look forward to enjoying their weekends and see their home as a personal haven away from the stress of everyday life." This, she said, made La Marea perfect for the new breed of young, urban professionals who are driven, yet are rediscovering the value of making time for themselves and their loved ones.

"The village provides an ideal setting for welcoming the positive changes that are coming their way," said Noval. "These changes include the beginning of married life, the birth of a new child, a job promotion, closing a big business deal, and all others that entail moving up."

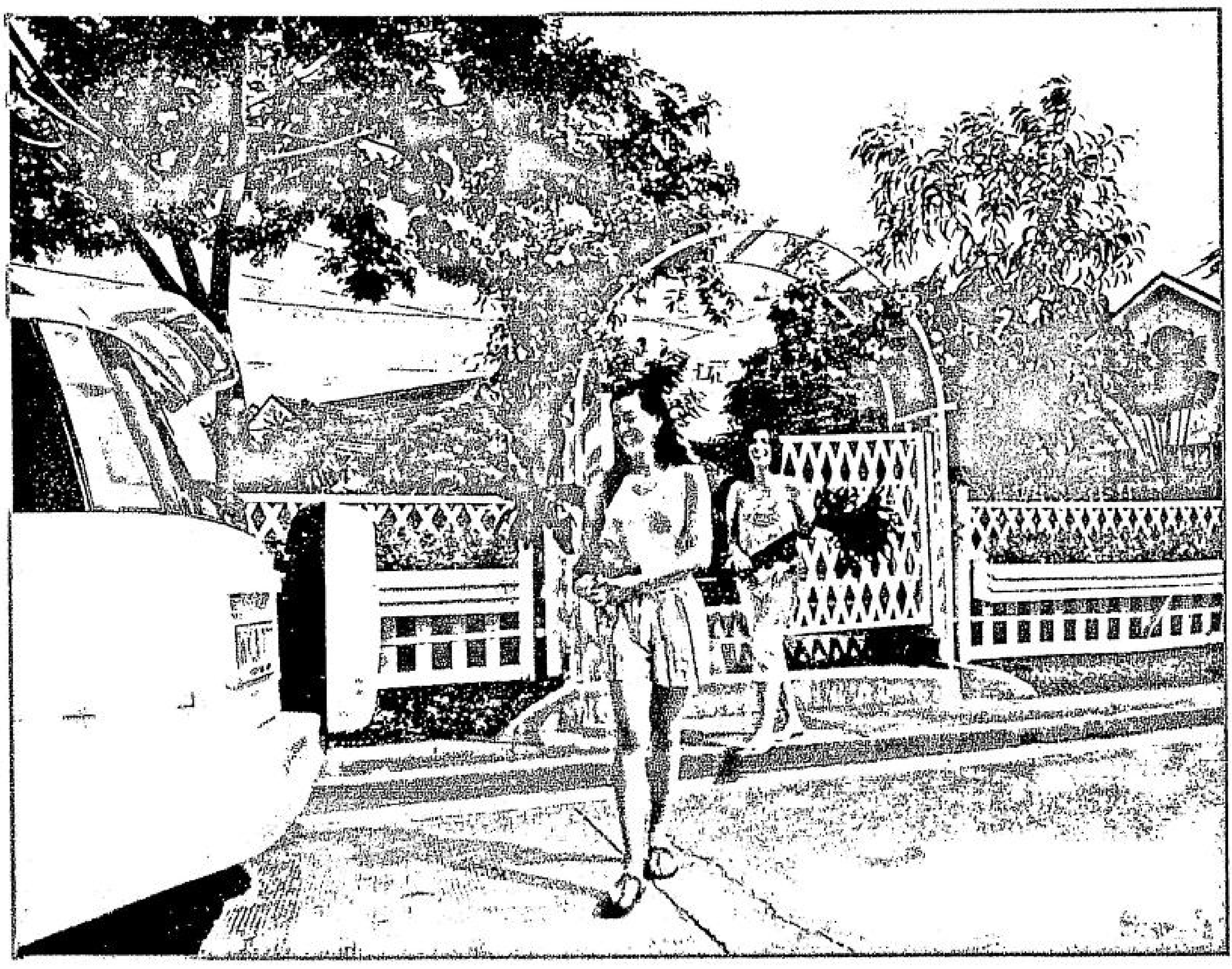
MOVE-IN BUSTLE. The Ungiolley unit is built uphill and therefore lends to a high ceiling.



POOLSIDE FROLIC. Tucked into the shade is the pool and patio for entertai



NEIGHBORLY VISIT. The multi-level home is the best design on the rolling t



GREENSCAPES. La Marea has many open spaces where residents can avail of plants.

SUNSET COCKTAILS. Each unit has a balcony where one can enjoy the fres

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Master plan

Mary Lee Sadiasa, 360° Living head, added that La Marea adhered to the company's five-pillar concept of property development: innovation, intelligent space planning, built-in flexibility, providing comfort within reach, and creating "rooms with a view."

"Our houses are designed to be multi-functional and to provide ample room for expansion," Sadiasa pointed out. "As the needs of the residents grow, their home will grow with them. Windows are also larger than the standard size, to allow more natural light to come in and present a better view of the outdoors."

Driving around the village, one cannot help but notice the trees that line the hilly terrain. Noval explained that in drawing the master plan of any site, the company took the area's topography into consideration and consistently tried to preserve the natural landscape. "We don't cut down trees," she claimed. "In fact, we plant more of them in the open spaces. Following the 360° Living concept, La Marea is a remarkable example that more can be done with less."

"The reason for having big windows is so that homeowners can enjoy the natural landscape and the charming, pleasant neighborhood outside," said Sadiasa. "We value their privacy and need for quiet time, so we are not allowing any commercial establishments within the subdivision. If they want to spend time at the mall or in any recreation center, these are just a few minutes away. If they prefer to stay home, they are assured of a tranquil environment. They will never wake up to find a noisy bar or crowded coffee shop next door."

For community activities, there is a clubhouse with swimming pool, sports facilities, children's playground, and picnic ground. Wide, paved streets are perfect for jogging, running or cycling. A fern garden and other pocket parks make ideal nooks for reading or for engaging in friendly chats.

Aside from environmental planning, waste management is also a key component of La Marea, according to both lady executives. For instance, the compulsory white picket fences serve more than just an aesthetic purpose. Mailboxes and waste bins are incorporated into the set-up to encourage neatness and sanitation within and outside each property. The homeowners' association has strict guidelines on waste segregation. Sadiasa and Noval said the group worked closely with the local government in ensuring the proper disposal of garbage.

Flexible packages

Back to affordability: Is this dream within reach?

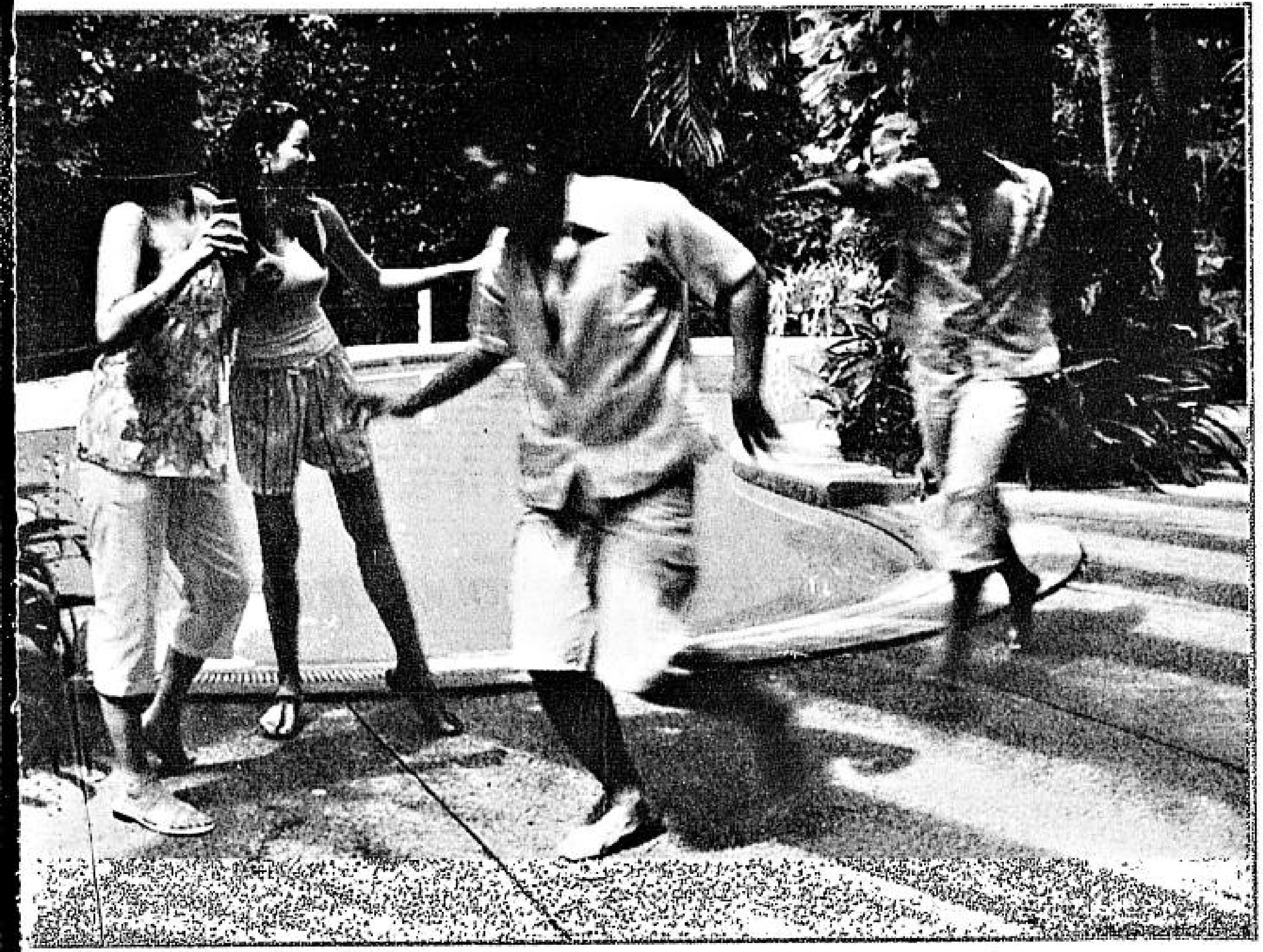
"We have a variety of packages to suit particular needs," said Sadiasa. "We assist clients with flexible payment schemes. In some cases, we even help find financing. It's a very personal relationship we have with buyers."

A brief glance at the price range and some mental math confirmed value for money. La Marea is certainly not cheap, but is quite reasonable when measured against a standard of living that should guarantee as much pleasure as satisfaction.

The 70 percent occupancy attests to this. It took La Marea very little time to develop into a thriving community.

As the ubiquitous Oprah Winfrey said: "Home is a state of mind … the sense of yourself that you carry with you no matter where you lay your head."

Lay mine down south.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GAZEBO BRUNCH. The clubhouse is designed for community gatherings.

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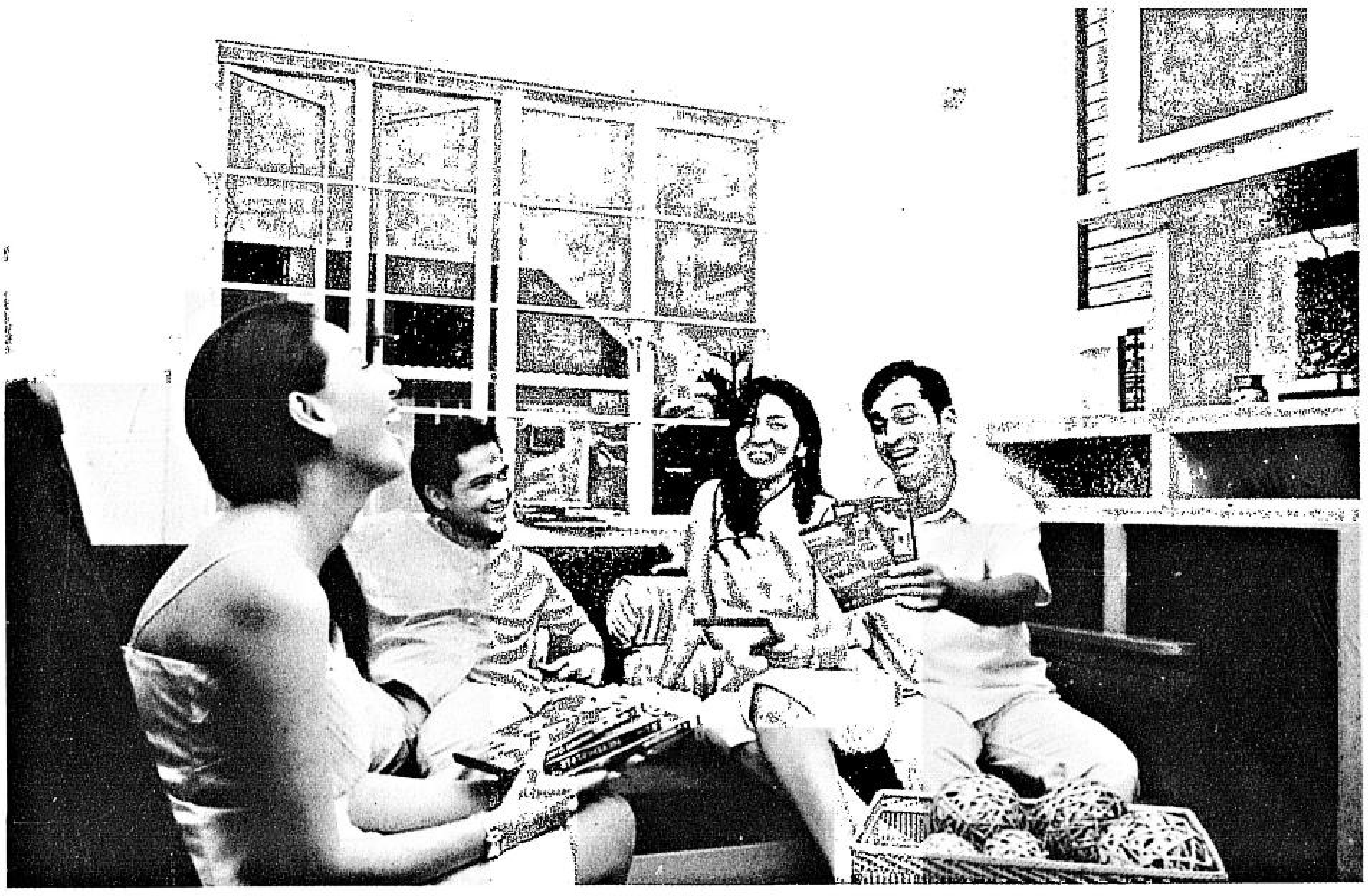
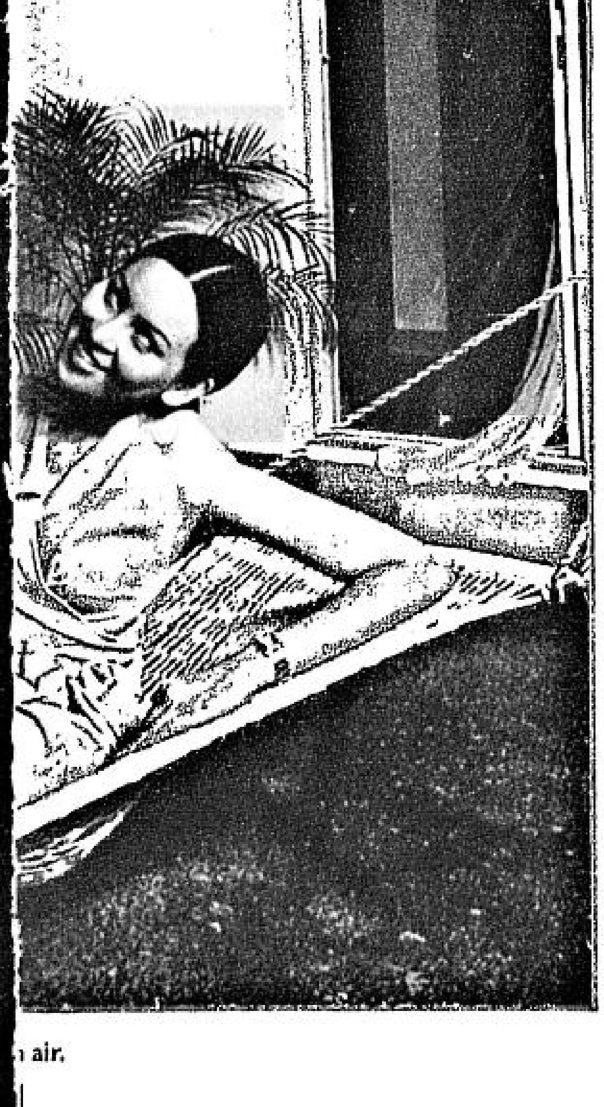

VIDEO PARTY. Fun at the family room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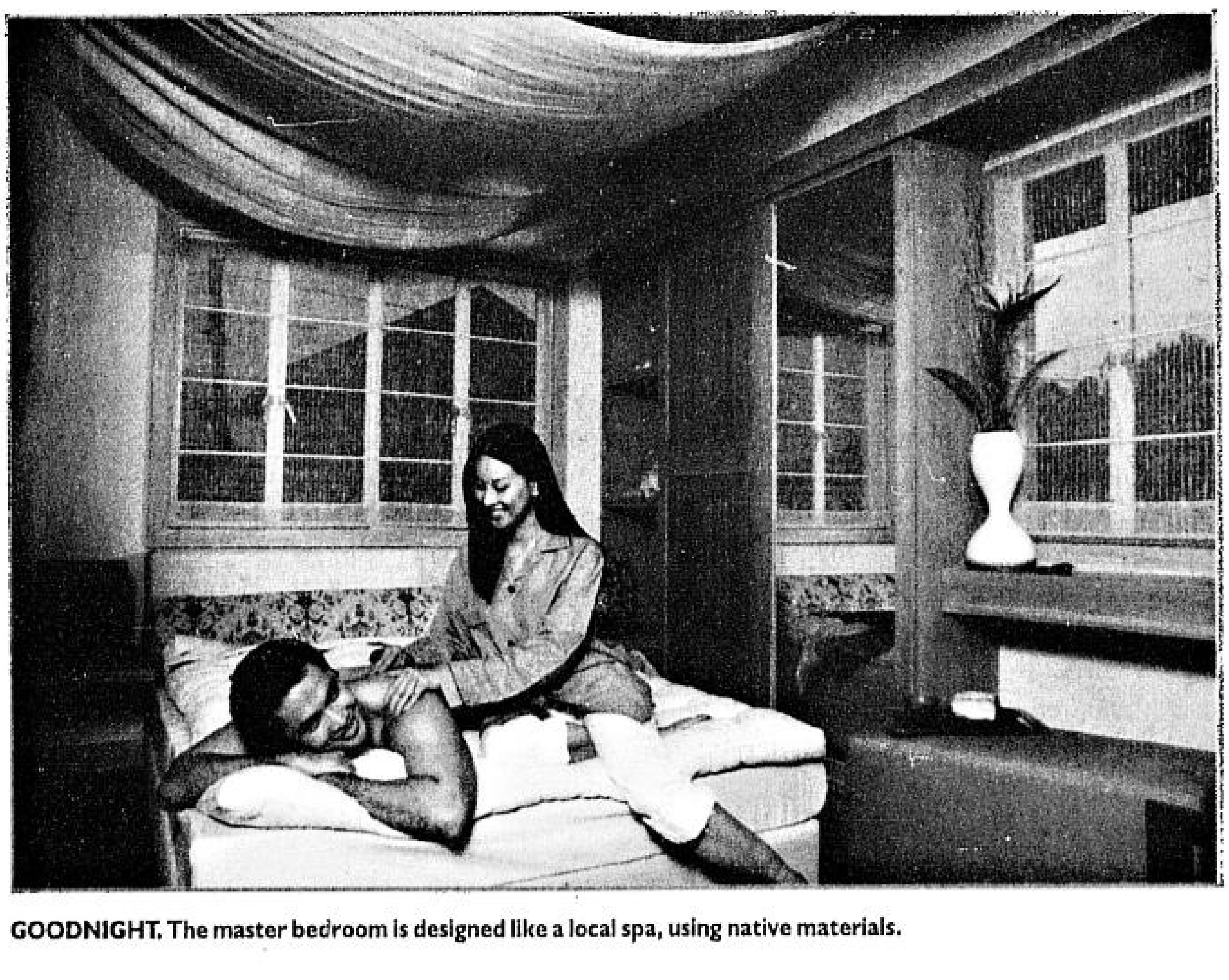
GOODNIGHT. The master bedroom is designed like a local spa, using native materials.

Location: Trails of La Marea, San Pedro, Laguna
Clothes: K & Co. at Glorietta 3, Ayala Center; Rockwell Center and Shangri-La Plaza Mall. Also available at Kate + Jack and Gingersnaps at The Podium
Models: Don Management

Southern exposure

Heed the direction of the modern compass to living well

SOUTHERN Luzon has always been known for its idyllic landscape and rich historic legacy. Home to mythical *diwatas* of enchanted mountains as well as revolutionary heroes, it remains a popular destination especially for day-tour packages. Its proximity to Metro Manila via major thoroughfares is a bonus.

But it was not until the last decade that metrophiles began moving southwards in droves, like pioneers of the Gold Rush making their way to a "promised land" of milk and honey. There are treasures to be found down south, they

SOUTHERN/4

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Southern exposure

From page 2

say—cleaner air, fresher water, an abundance of greens and a more relaxed lifestyle, all of which have become rare commodities in the big city.

"The exodus to the South was pushed by the Calabarzon initiative," says research specialist Bong Molina. She explains that this clustering of the major provinces of Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal and Quezon for industrial development, as well as government programs that provided incentives to businesses in the area, brought a steady influx of workers, supervisors and managers, and as a result, rapid economic growth.

Today, Calabarzon (also known as Region IV-A) is the second most densely populated region in the country with two international ports, over a dozen major industrial estates and technology parks, and three major power-generating stations that make it a key component of the Luzon Power Grid. The Southern Luzon Expressway conveniently connects it to Manila's major business centers.

However, power and industry are not the main reasons that people would relocate and build their homes elsewhere. For modern-day migrants, the real attraction still lies in the fabled wonder of the region's natural grace. Cradled in majestic mountains and volcanoes, surrounded by rejuvenating hot springs and an abundant freshwater lake, the south offers a perfect blend of crisp, countryside living with all the conveniences of an urban lifestyle.

Breathing space

Molina observes through almost 20 years of experience in real estate market research consultancy that, despite earlier efforts to create mass housing projects north of Metro Manila, the urban growth movement pattern was naturally inclined to lean towards the south.

"When real estate boomed and the private sector took active interest in housing development, it became apparent that there was very little space to move up north; it was already full," he says. "Of course there are still efforts to reclaim rice fields and fishponds, but in the rainy season, they are bound to go under water. Just look at the headlines these days—knee-deep floods with every typhoon. Apparently, these areas are really meant for planting or fishing, and now nature wants them back. It didn't take long for companies to realize that there are more opportunities for developing real estate southwards, because it had all the promise of community living, minus the flooding and congestion."

True enough, beyond the villages of Parañaque and Muntinlupa, thousands have set up residence in the surrounding towns of Cavite and Laguna. It is no longer unusual to see office employees commuting to Makati or Ortigas from homes in Imus or San Pedro, or executives driving to work from posh estates in Santa Rosa or Alabang.

As Molina puts it: "In the past, if you told people that you lived in the south, they would probably say, 'That's far! Aren't there just rice fields there?' These days, when you live in the south, you are referred to as '*sosyal*'!"

Dream destination

Indeed, the south is a "dream destination" for new homeowners, particularly the so-called "young, upwardly mobile market." A real estate agent describes this sector as a generation that aspires for a mansion in a well-heeled, exclusive village, and moves closer to their target by making their first home in an upscale, yet affordable subdivision.

There are also very practical reasons for choosing to live in the south. School owner Lisa Mendoza, who grew up in busy downtown Manila, chose to build her learning center for special children in a cozy, suburban community in Parañaque because "it is definitely less crowded, but the facilities are complete."

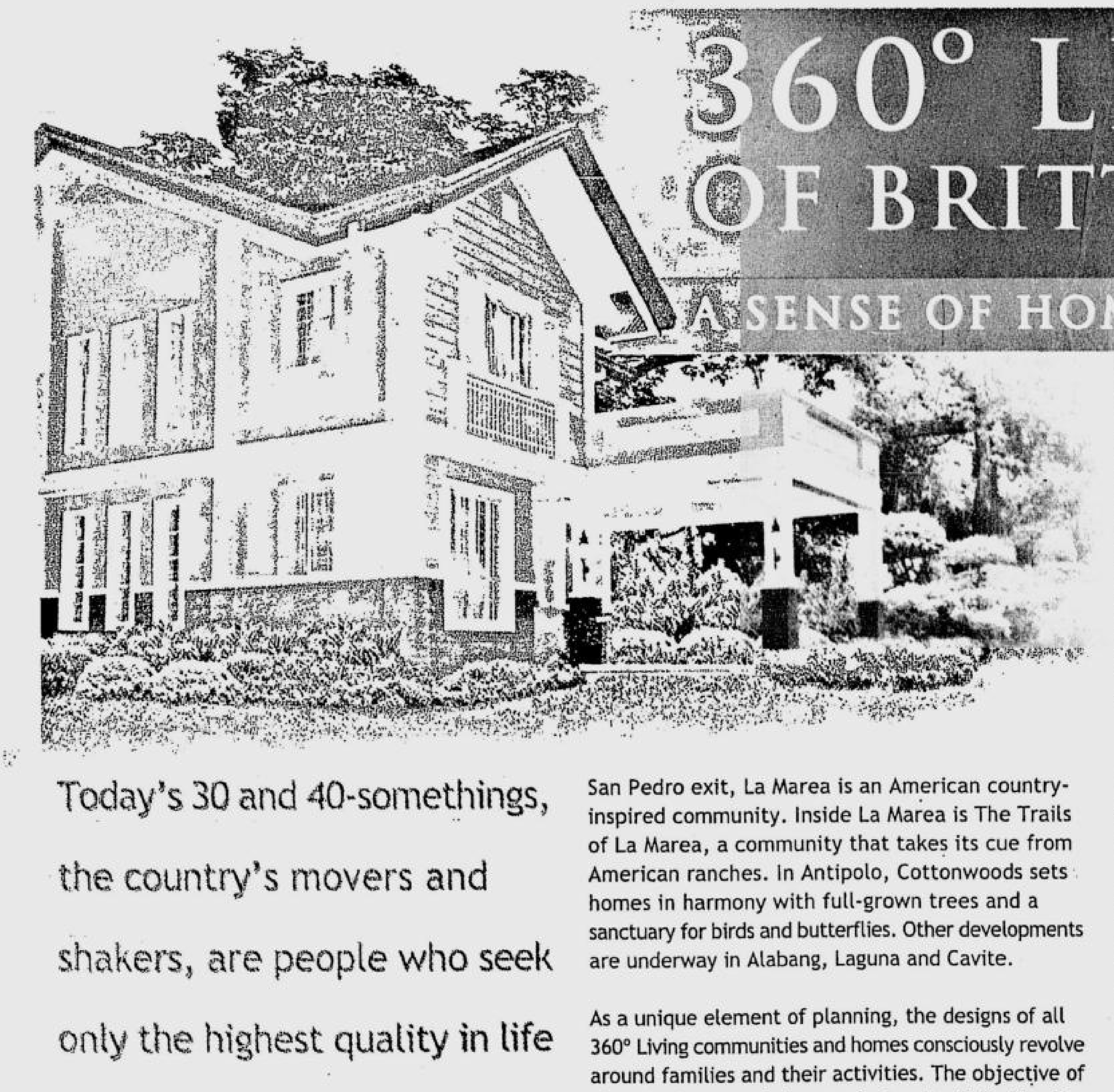
Soon enough, she decided to buy a three-bedroom bungalow in the same subdivision. Now she drives to daily MBA classes on Taft Avenue via the expressway with little effort. "As long as you don't venture out during rush hour, it is a shorter and more comfortable trip than having to sweat it out in the city's workday traffic."

Ditto with journalist Vlad Bunoan, who moved to a flat near the Alabang business and recreation center after coming home from a working stint abroad. Formerly a long-time resident of Quezon City, he has learned to love the south because "the air is cleaner and the pace is more relaxed."

He adds that it is also more convenient and developed, compared to real estate options in the northern and eastern markets. "It is also ideal for families because there is quite a selection of reputable schools and good leisure facilities," he points out.

As they say, what matters more than the cost is for one's living space to nourish his soul, buffer his mind from stress, and provide ample opportunity for both personal and family time. On these counts, obviously, the compass to living well points southwards. *Angela Blardony Ureta*

360° Living communities and homes consciously revolve around families and their activities.



360° Living homes provides space of one's own, from a dad's corner nook to a child's play area.

Today's 30 and 40-somethings, the country's movers and shakers, are people who seek only the highest quality in life both at work and at home.

They have high expectations of what a home should be: a shelter for their children to grow up in with an unspoiled environment; a sanctuary where they can reenergize in peaceful comfort; a refuge for spending private time with their families; a possession enabling them to connect with nature and neighbors.

With the needs and wants of these achievers in mind, Brittany Corporation, the country's leader in developing themed and master-planned residential communities, launched 360° Living. A new corporate division, 360° Living develops exclusive, themed residential communities—homes that help these achievers attain the high quality of life they envision for their families.

One of the developments of 360° Living is La Marea in San Pedro, Laguna. Located right after the new San Pedro exit, La Marea is an American country-inspired community. Inside La Marea is The Trails of La Marea, a community that takes its cue from American ranches. In Antipolo, Cottonwoods sets homes in harmony with full-grown trees and a sanctuary for birds and butterflies. Other developments are underway in Alabang, Laguna and Cavite.

As a unique element of planning, the designs of all 360° Living communities and homes consciously revolve around families and their activities. The objective of planning is to maximize comfort and satisfaction for residents as they go about their daily lives.

All this is captured in 360° Living's 5-pillar philosophy.

Innovation
Going beyond the usual way of doing things. It's about creating uncommon designs with a purpose—like placing garages at the back to give you an unhampered view. 360° Living calls it cutting edge development; fresh thinking that ensures the family's home today still best answers the needs for the future.

Intelligent space planning
Every space is meticulously thought out and designed for the way people live.

Built-in flexibility
The homes allow room for expansion. Spaces are multi-functional, ready for just about any use.

Comfort within your reach
360° Living homes afford the luxury of comfort at a price customers like.

Rooms with a view
The homes allow for picturesque views of the surrounding scenery. Windows are bigger than usual and are strategically placed around the entire home.

Every family in a 360° Living home will be rewarded by the experience of a comfortable and happy way of life that affirms their sense of who they are and what they're achieving. Most of all, they will derive fulfillment, because they know they're getting the best from 360° Living.

360° LIVING
A DIVISION OF BRITTANY CORPORATION
call 842 1360 or 842 1251